



Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for over 48 years

Thursday, July 8, 2004

hometownlife.com

50¢

Volume 49 Number 6

Novi, Michigan

© 2004 HomeTown Communications Network™

Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
Classifieds

REGIONAL MARKET

Lyon's Marketplace

Lyon's Marketplace has thrived at its location on Lafayette in South Lyon by providing high-quality food and service to its customers. Emily Wilson is one of the marketplace's newest employees.
— Page 4A



INSIDE

Second City

Were you the class clown while growing up? Well, now you can hone those hidden talents at Novi's newest comedy venue — The Second City Training Center at Fountain Walk shopping center. The center offers Youth Improv Workshops as well as classes for adults.
— Page 5A

SPORTS

Heading to Greece

Novi native Kate MacKenzie and her partner, Sarah Jones, had to win two out of three races against one of the best two-person row teams in the nation if they wanted to make the trip to Athens, Greece, for the Olympics. Win those two they did — by a total of 0.75 seconds.
— Page 1B

INDEX

- Business 9A
- Calendar 16A
- Classifieds 1D
- Community 5A
- Education 10A
- Faith 8A
- Health 15A
- Lifestyles 8A
- Public Safety 4A
- Regional Marketplace... 4B
- Seniors 14A
- Sports 1B

CONTACT US

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

Classifieds: 888-999-1288
 Newsroom: 248-349-1700
 Fax: 248-349-9832
 Home Delivery: 888-840-4809



Postal Information:
000000 03101
*****CAR-RT LOTAC-092
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
45245 N 10 MILE RD
NOVI MI 48375-3014

Search on for robbers

Bank One in Novi hit Thursday

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Area law enforcement officers continue to search for two suspects following a robbery last Thursday morning at the Bank One branch in Novi.

The Novi Police Department received a hold-up alarm from an off-site alarm company issued by Bank One, 39820 W. Eight Mile Road, just west of Haggerty Road, at 9:44 a.m. July 1.

The bank lobby opens at 9 a.m. Several squad cars responded to the alert, and both plain clothed and uniformed officers arrived at the scene.

"A message was relayed to the Law Enforcement Information Network as soon as we had a good



Suspect one

suspect and vehicle description," said Det. Jerrod Hart, Novi Police Department. The message went out to the entire Southeast Michigan area.

"We have pictures of the vehicle, too, that we received late the day of the robbery," Hart said. The images are of the vehicle driving around Republic Bank across the street in Northville Township.

"We hope somebody will come forward with a name and be able to identify them."

Novi police have also partnered with Crimestoppers Alliance. Anyone with information about the suspects can earn up to \$1,000. "It's all anonymous, and they can report their tip to 1-800-SPEAKUP," Hart



Suspect two

said. "We're following up on several leads." Bank officials would not comment on the robbery.

Initial investigations revealed that two male subjects entered the Bank One branch at approximately 9:38 a.m. Suspect one approached a teller while suspect two stood near the door and allegedly acted as the "look-out."

According to the Novi police, suspect one produced a note advising the teller to put all of the money in his black bag and that the man at the door had a gun. "A gun was implied but never produced," Hart said.

The two suspects fled the bank with an undisclosed amount of cash. Suspect one is described as a 40-

50 year-old, black male with black hair, a mustache and goatee. He was wearing a baseball cap and dark sunglasses and was said to be unkempt, according to police.

Suspect two is described as a 30-40 year-old black, clean-shaven male with black hair. He was wearing a lightweight grayish-blue jacket, a blue T-shirt and gold bracelet on his right wrist.

The suspects are believed to have fled the scene in a gray or silver Ford minivan. Video snapshots of the suspects were made possible by the Bank One security video camera.

Anyone with information regarding the robbery can contact Det. Hart, Novi Police Department, at (248) 347-0524.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.hometown.com.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER
Amanda Church holds up a couple of her vests with 10 years' worth of badges and patches from various Scout activities and accomplishments.

Stickin' with it

Graduate participated in Scouting for 13 years

By Kim Kovellev
STAFF WRITER

As a recently graduated senior, Amanda Church has accomplished something that no Novi 18-year-old has in close to a decade. She's been a Girl Scout since kindergarten.

Church traces her roots to Pennsylvania where, at age 6, she became a Daisy Scout in a troop led by her mother, Janice. When her family moved to Novi shortly thereafter, scouting was her key to adapting.

"The Girl Scouts helped me fit in because that was hard moving here," recalled Church of her Novi Woods Troop #2367. "Everyone was just so friendly."

Since then, Church has gone through all the ranks — from Daisy to Brownie, then Junior, Cadette, and finally Senior. Looking back, she recalls how the Scouts have helped shaped her.

Early on, ventures to Camp Innisfree in Howell broadened her horizons.

"It's cool because you could meet people from all over," Church said. "It was amazing to see where they'd grown up and (hear about) their lives."

The trips also kindled a love of horses. At Novi High School, Church helped found the equestrian team and now has her own horse, a 19-year-old German Warmblood Trakehner named Bella.

Earning her merit badges exposed her to activities ranging from crafts and reading to science and sports. All badges and patches considered, Church estimates she easily has 100.

"It really let me recognize that I liked a lot of things," Church said. For the Churches, scouting verges on heredity.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Taking the plunge

Camp Lakeshore camper Artem Vincenti joyously plunges backward into the cool waters of Walled Lake during a swim last Friday afternoon. Camp Lakeshore, providing recreation for about 30 kids each session, is operated by Novi Parks and Recreation from mid-June until early August each year.

Printer caused school ballot problem

Precinct Three unable to vote for OCC candidates

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

In an unusual turn of events, the Novi Community School District election, held on June 14, which included the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees election on the ballot, did not go as

smoothly as otherwise anticipated.

Sure, the final school board candidate numbers, the millage renewal numbers and new millage numbers were all correct, but the fact that residents could vote for the OCC election at Precincts One and Two, but not at Three, made things quite confusing for many.

Jim Koster, Novi school's assistant superintendent for business and finance, explained that there should have been 500 ballots in Precinct One that didn't include the OCC election, 500 ballots in Precinct Two that didn't include



J. Koster

the OCC election and 500 did.

"On that day I went back and forth to the printer four times, and they're down south of the airport, just to keep up on it and make sure it was OK," Koster said. "For Precinct Three, I and everybody else assumed that the OCC election was on them all. The OCC attorney, our attorney and I checked it. We all have to sign off and proofread it, so it passed through all those eyes. I didn't know about it until 10 o'clock that night, that the printer reversed

the OCC election and 500 did.

"On that day I went back and forth to the printer four times, and they're down south of the airport, just to keep up on it and make sure it was OK," Koster said. "For Precinct Three, I and everybody else assumed that the OCC election was on them all. The OCC attorney, our attorney and I checked it. We all have to sign off and proofread it, so it passed through all those eyes. I didn't know about it until 10 o'clock that night, that the printer reversed

continued on page 3

continued on page 3

Senior citizens celebrate Fourth of July in creative style

Novi Center hosts festive patriotic picnic

By Kim Kovellev
STAFF WRITER

Festooned in their red, white and blue best, 83 seniors headed to the City of Novi Senior Center last Thursday for a picnic and plenty of patriotic trivia.

For a \$5-a-head cover, those participating in the "Stars and Stripes Picnic" were treated to a barbecue chicken lunch, the guitar-strummed music of Bob Lowe, and even festive plastic necklaces and star-shaped flag stickers.

Fourth of July festivities were available for all.

"We haven't missed a time," said Lauretta Heaphy, 79, who attended the event with her husband, Ed. "Most of the activities here are sold out."

For her and Ed, Independence Day has added significance. It was the day they were originally supposed to be married. The ceremony actually occurred four days later, when Ed had returned from military service.

"She said she needed me to be there," grinned Ed, 81. Today marks their 60th anniversary.

Also seated among friends, Laree Bell, 79, enjoyed her meal in a star-spangled tiara. "Their lunches are very, very good," said Bell, who moved into

the City of Novi Meadowbrook Commons this past weekend. "They really are meals on wheels."

When mealtime was winding down, Shirley Adams, who arrived with friend Orance Carpenter, worked on an activity packet passed out to all attendees. On the "American History Test," she pondered how the Liberty Bell received its famous crack.

"Maybe it fell," she postulated with a smile. "Maybe somebody dropped it." (Actually, it split the first time it was rung in 1753.)

Don Rosa, 79, arrived an hour and a half before the event —



Photo by Kim Kovellev
George Patak and his friend Almeda Horstall have patriotic Popsicles at the City of Novi Senior Center's "Stars and Stripes Picnic."

continued on page 3

Buy it up now! **Green Sheet Classifieds**



A pair of Camp Lakeshore campers have some fun on their own as their buddies play dodgeball on a sunny Friday afternoon.



With a smile, Novi's Camp Lakeshore counselor Matt VanNortwick, right, pours a dollop of mustard on the hotdog of camper Masahisa Tsuji during their lunch break.

CAMP LAKESHORE



Campers Artem Vincenti, left, and Eddie Gabriel are buried in the sand of Walled Lake by their fellow Camp Lakeshore attendees.

Camp Lakeshore kids David Popoola, left, 7, and Carl Gabriel, also 7, talk during lunch on a recent Friday afternoon. Campers eat in the park pavilion most afternoons.

Photos by John Heider

Children ages 6-12 can enjoy the summer at Camp Lakeshore, run by the City of Novi's Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. Sessions run Monday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and cost residents just \$135 (\$10 more for non-residents). There are 45 campers per session and a 6-1 camper/staff ratio. The last session is August 9-13. Call (248) 347-0400 for more information.



Camp Lakeshore counselor Melissa Roemer, right, leads her charges through the tunnel to Walled Lake for a quick swim. Most days at the camp are highlighted by a swim in lake.



Camp Lakeshore camper Jared Robson, 7, puts his all into a toss during an intense game of dodgeball. Campers went up against the counselors.

Stickin' with it Printer caused community college ballot problem

continued from front page

everything and none of the ballots had OCC on them in Precinct Three. It was an error shared by quite a few people."

Koster explained that the Oakland Community College board of trustees election alternates yearly with the Schoolcraft College board of trustees election on Novi Community School District's ballot.

Impact on the OCC election

Nine candidates ran for three seats across Oakland County in the OCC election. After the final numbers were in and the seats were filled, Novi announced the error. It was then up to the remaining six candidates to file a petition to the Board of Canvassers, which is a board that

counts and validates votes for any election in the county, requesting a special election in Precinct Three only for the 1,325 Novi residents who voted on June 14.

"None of the six remaining candidates thought they had a chance to off-seat the three that had won because that one precinct couldn't carry it," Koster said.

"The chances of displacing somebody where you're up against the entire county is extremely slim," Koster said that one person was going to make all the motions to petition, but decided against it because she felt she didn't have a chance to win anyway.

Election changes coming

Historically, school boards have run their own elections. Typically, Novi has always held its in June, but according to Novi City Clerk Maryanne Cornelius, that will all change as soon as next year.

"Some of the things that voters complain to us about is that they don't know where to vote," Cornelius said. "We always tell them that we don't do the school elections, we only do government elections."

Cornelius explained that a new bill was signed earlier this year that will go into effect in September. Beginning in January, there are going to be four months

in a given year - February, May, August and November - that school districts can choose from to hold their elections.

The language in the new law currently states that the county clerk is responsible for running the election. However, it appears that it's going to become the local clerk's responsibility.

"I will do the Novi schools, and in January of 2005 we will all meet with the county clerk register to make sure that everybody is on the same page as to who is going to do what," Cornelius said. "That way, when the school asks us to do an election, it will be run by people who handle elections on a consistent basis."

The school's election law is a little bit different than a local government's election law. Under this system, we are hoping to bring some sort of continuity to the voters. It's all about voter

education and encouraging them to vote as well.

The bottom line is that Novi residents can look forward to four dates a year that a school election could be held. The Novi Community School District can choose one of those four dates, but it was also granted an additional date, or "float date."

"This was quite a big issue in Lansing when the schools were protesting quite strongly," Cornelius said. "You have to have time in between your election cycles to store your records and prepare for the next one, so there are only a few times in there that it's actually going to be feasible to hold an election on a float date."

Raeae Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.hometown.com.

Senior citizens celebrate Fourth of July in creative style

continued from front page

which kicked off at 12 p.m. — to put potato salad in cups and help with other preparations.

"I use up some of my time, and I see the people being happy," said Rosa of his volunteer efforts, which included clearing away the empty plates. "They do have quite a few events."

After lunch, it was time for a game of U.S. trivia.

With a little persuasion and great deal of clucking, one person from each table went to the front of the room — two at a time — to answer questions devised and posed by Jan McAlpine, the senior center manager.

"Make sure that the person you pick knows history," advised senior recreation coordinator Rachel Zagaroli, who laid out the ground rules.

Questions ranged from the simple, such as the colors of the

American flag, to the tricky. Do you know the name of America's first college?

Contestant Alice Masson of Novi, who had quickly buzzed in with a number of correct answers, guessed The College of William & Mary. The answer was in fact Harvard, but since her opponent didn't know either, she was up for another round.

However, competition was light-hearted, with audience members chiming in to help out. Regardless of whose historical knowledge was most keen, everyone was treated to a tasty prize: red, white and blue PopSicles.

"It's a wonderful day here," agreed George and Virginia Kiba.

Kim Kavelle is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or via e-mail at kavelle@ht.hometown.com.



Lauretta Heaphy and her husband, Ed, enjoy watermelon, chicken and other goodies at the City of Novi Senior Center's "Stars and Stripes Picnic."

TIME FOR A CHANGE? **Change the batteries in your smoke detector at least once a year.**

United States Fire Administration Federal Emergency Management Agency **HOME TOWN** Newspaper **517-548-2000**

http://www.usfa.fema.gov

CITY OF NOVI PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

Notice is hereby given that the LOCATION HAS CHANGED for the Regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission scheduled for Thursday, July 8, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. The Commission will meet at the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department and then proceed on a tour of the Novi Parks system. This notice has also been posted at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, on cable Channel 13, the City of Novi's website: www.ci.novi.mi.us and the Novi Public Library.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CMC CITY CLERK

(7-8-04 NN 147081)

THE NOVI NEWS Published Each Thursday By The Novi News 104 W. Main Street Northville, Michigan 48167 Periodical At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates: Inside Counties \$26 one year home delivery, \$35 one year mail delivery. Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, \$50 per year.

HomeTown Newspapers™ A Subsidiary of HomeTown Communications Network, Postmaster, send address changes to: Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844. POLICY STATEMENT: All advertising published in HomeTown Newspapers™ is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, (248-349-1700). HomeTown Newspapers™ reserves the right to accept an advertiser's order. HomeTown Newspapers™ ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Postmaster, send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844.

Publication Number USPS 398290

\$4.95/mo Internet!

There is a company in our area that offers fast, reliable, and extremely inexpensive Internet access to our area. What's so refreshingly unusual is that Netpenny has taken the 'Wal-Mart' approach to business - Because of volume Netpenny only charges \$4.95 a month Internet access! Better yet - they have exceptional free customer service, no contracts, 5 free emails, free spam/virus filtering, support instant messaging, no credit card is required and they are engineered for no 'busy signals!' People are getting better service than they've ever had before and saving as much as \$227 or more per year! Imagine saving enough to make a car payment or take a weekend getaway year after year just for switching Internet companies! To sign up today, visit their website at www.netpenny.net or call toll-free at 1-888-248-7239.

Move to our low-rate Home Equity Line of Credit and we'll pick up your prepayment penalty.

GUEST CHECK

Supplemental Loan Disbursement	\$17,849.51
Prepayment Penalty	\$0.00
Closing Cost	\$0.00
Application Fee	\$0.00
Appraisal Fee	\$0.00
Total	\$17,849.51

Introducing an equity line that pays instead of penalizes. Make the move from another bank's home equity loan to Standard Federal's, and we'll pay your prepayment penalty or early closure fee - up to \$350* Plus, there are no application fees, no appraisal fees, no closing costs, and no prepayment penalties! You'll benefit from our tiered-rate structure which provides lower rates for larger lines of credit, regardless of how much you borrow. And application is quick and easy.

For more details on this limited-time offer, stop by a nearby branch, call us toll-free at (877) 431-4882, or visit standardfederal.com/loans/freedom.html.

True Possibility **Standard Federal Bank** ABN AMRO

*Annual Percentage Rates (APR) on Standard Federal Bank's Home Equity Line of Credit are tied to Prime. Prime is the highest Prime Rate as published in the "Money Rates" section of The Wall Street Journal on the last publishing day of the calendar month immediately preceding the billing cycle. The margin tied to Prime varies and depends on the approved credit line amount and combined loan-to-value. On May 28, 2004 Prime was 4.00% and the APR on Standard Federal Bank's Home Equity Line of Credit products varied between 3.25% and 7.00%. Prime is a variable rate, it changes, the APR on your account will change. The maximum APR is 11%. A balloon payment will result at the end of the term or draw period. The Home Equity Line is limited to owner-occupied 1-4 family properties and is subject to no less than a second lien position on your property. You must carry insurance on the property that secures this loan. Flood insurance required if necessary. There is a \$50 annual fee after the first year unless you are a member of Credit Connections. Consult your loan officer concerning the availability of interest. Closing costs paid by Standard Federal Bank are limited to application, title insurance, flood certification, and recording fees. Any additional fees or conditions imposed by the city, state, or county that the subject property is located in will be the borrower's responsibility. The APRs are subject to change without notice. Details of \$200 cash back offer: Upon closing on your Standard Federal Home Equity Line of Credit or Fixed-Rate Loan of \$25,000 or more, you may qualify to receive a reimbursement of any prepayment penalty or early closure fee you incurred when paying off an existing second lien home equity loan with another financial institution of \$2,000 or more. The maximum reimbursement you may receive is limited to \$200. Limit one reimbursement per qualifying loan. Your new Standard Federal Home Equity Loan must be used to pay off an existing second lien balance of \$25,000 or more on the property you are using for collateral. The offer may be withdrawn without notice. The reimbursement amount may be considered income to you for tax purposes. You must submit proof of the prepayment penalty or early closure fee you incurred along with the completed reimbursement form you will receive at closing within 60 days of your Standard Federal Home Equity Loan closing date to qualify. Member FDIC. ©2004 Standard Federal Bank N.A.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net

ROAD REPORT

The following projects may cause traffic delays on Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) roads.

Grand River Ave. at Novi Road

Project: RCOC is widening this intersection. All left turns are prohibited at the intersection for the duration of the project, and the road is restricted to one lane in either direction. Beginning approximately July 21 and lasting for approximately four weeks, Grand River will be closed immediately west of Novi so that a culvert can be replaced. Community: Novi. Completion Date: November.

Novi Road at Ten Mile Road

Project: Starting approximately July 6, RCOC will widen this intersection to five lanes in each direction, as well as widening Novi Road to five lanes 1,000 feet north and south of the intersection. There will be lane closures. Community: Novi. Completion Date: November.

Twelve Mile, West Parkway to Heck

Project: The Michigan Dept. of Transportation has closed this section of Twelve Mile as part of its construction of a new Beck1-96 interchange. During the closure, the detour route is West, West Parkway, Twelve Mile and Grand River. Community: Novi & Wixom. Completion Date: End of August.

Griswold Road, 9 Mile to 10 Mile

Project: RCOC is paving this gravel road. The road is closed to through traffic. The detour route is Nine Mile, Pontiac Trail (Lafayette) and Ten Mile. Community: Lyon Twp. Completion Date: By Oct. 2.

10 Mile Road, Johns Road to Chubb Road

Project: Beginning approx. July 6, South Lyon Community Schools will close this section of Ten Mile Road so it can widen and reconstruct the road in front of the new high school. The road will be closed until approximately

the end of August. The detour route will be Milford, Grand River and Heck. Community: Lyon Twp. Completion Date: Aug. 30.

Orchard Lake Road, Pontiac Trail to Maple

Project: RCOC's contractor is replacing bad sections of concrete in this section of Orchard Lake. No work is underway currently, but work will resume after the Fourth of July weekend. Work will take place at night, but there will be some lane closures during the day to allow the new concrete to cure. Community: West Bloomfield Twp. and Orchard Lake Village. Completion Date: By July 12.

Buno Road between Charms and Childs Lake roads

Project: The CSX railroad will close this road between July 6 and 8 to repair the railroad crossing. During the closure, the detour route will be Childs Lake, West Maple, Wixom and Charms roads. Community: Milford Twp. Completion Date: By July 8.

POLICE REPORT

Somebody's watching

A 27-year-old Novi man was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated at 12:19 a.m. June 20 at Novi and Twelve Mile roads.

One big beer

A 25-year-old Ferndale man was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated at 10:28 p.m. June 18 on Addison Road near Taft and Ten Mile roads.

Catch but no release

An officer was dispatched to the gazoob on the north side of Island Lake at 7:38 p.m. June 19 with a complaint relating to a fishing issue.

Clutch but no release

The officer informed the men that the association rules dictate that fish must be released after being caught, or the offending resident will lose his or her lake privileges.

officer pulled over the driver. He smelled alcohol, and when questioned, the driver said that he had been partying all day and had drunk several beers.

A breath test revealed a blood alcohol level of .15 percent.

The officer was dispatched to the parking lot of Twelve Oaks Mall when a caller reported that he was driving north on Novi Road at Grand River when a vehicle passed him north and went left of center, nearly hitting his vehicle. The complainant identified the car parked in Denny's Restaurant on Novi Road.

He furthermore stated that the vehicle was all over the north lanes of traffic, and that it kept weaving left of center.

While the officer was talking to the complainant, the man returned to his car and left the parking lot of Denny's.

After watching the vehicle swerve and stop well past the stop line at the intersection at Novi Road near the mall, the

driver's eyes were also very red and glassy. When questioned about his drinking, he said that he had one beer earlier in the day.

A blood alcohol test showed a level of .25 percent.

However, the police cannot enforce the subdivision rules on the lake, as it is a private lake.

Compiled by Pam Fleming

Putting the 'fun' in funny

■ Youth Improv Workshops pull students from across area

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Were you the class clown while growing up? Well, now you can hone those hidden talents at Novi's newest comedy venue — The Second City Training Center at Fountain Walk shopping center.

The center offers Youth Improv Workshops as well as classes for adults.

Classes are in full swing, with students just completing the first round of sessions June 24. The Second City Theatre is slated to open at Fountain Walk next fall.

At the end of each session, students have the opportunity to perform for family, friends, and members of the public at the Imagine Theater next door.

"We just went over to the Imagine Theater, and they're all so excited about it," said Lisa Chapman, general business manager.

The young performers had a 30-minute show the morning of June 26 at the theater. Members are available either from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

attend the on-stage performances can attend for only \$5 per ticket, which can be purchased at the theater box office the day of the show.

The class involves teaching improvisational games, according to Chapman. "Through the games, they learn to trust each other, have confidence in themselves and build an ensemble," she said.

In the first session, the center had about 16 students for both age groups. "We are almost full for the older kids' session for the July 12 session," Chapman noted. The maximum is 20 students per class.

Current instructors include Kathy Rawlinson of Farmington Hills and Topher Owen from Detroit. Rawlinson, who's originally from Birmingham and has worked with The Second City for several years, teaches all of the sessions but will have a different co-teacher each session.

"Fountain Walk is thrilled that Second City is holding its summer classes here. It adds to the many entertainment opportunities that we have to offer and is just a taste of the excitement that Second City will bring when the theater itself opens," said Linda Busse, marketing director at the shopping center.

The next Youth Improv Workshop sessions start July 12 and run through July 22. Classes are available either from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Other youth sessions are offered for two age groups — 9-12 or 13-17. Classes for adults, available evenings and weekends, are offered for three hours a week for eight weeks. Cost for all classes is \$200 per student per session.

For more information, check out The Second City's Web site at www.secondcity.com or call (248) 348-4448.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pflem@ht.homecomm.net.

COMMUNITY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net



Photo by Pam Fleming

Second City Youth Improv Workshop participants act out the word "fear" at the end of their last class June 24 in Novi. From left: Daniel Miller, Pete Podolski, Jake Draugelis, Michelle Resnick, Adam Ston, Patrick Rooney and Claire Stavenga.

Monday through Thursday for two weeks. Sessions are offered for two age groups — 9-12 or 13-17. Classes for adults, available evenings and weekends, are offered for three hours a week for eight weeks. Cost for all classes is \$200 per student per session.

Other youth sessions are offered for two age groups — 9-12 or 13-17. Classes for adults, available evenings and weekends, are offered for three hours a week for eight weeks. Cost for all classes is \$200 per student per session.

For more information, check out The Second City's Web site at www.secondcity.com or call (248) 348-4448.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pflem@ht.homecomm.net.

LET'S TALK JEWELRY

WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST

THE FOUR C'S OF DIAMOND BUYING

While most consumers are concerned with carat weight when purchasing a diamond, it is but one of the "Four C's" of diamond buying. The most important of the Four C's is cut, upon which a diamond's brilliance is heavily dependent. Next comes clarity. While diamonds may appear perfect to the naked eye, many contain inclusions (natural characteristics) to some degree. Diamonds that are clear create more brilliance. There is color. Colorless diamonds are the most desirable because they allow the most reflection of light, which produces sparkle. Finally, carat weight should be taken into careful consideration. Due to the mining process, large diamonds are more rare and more costly than small diamonds. The price of a diamond rises exponentially to its size. Diamonds are also a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for just any occasion — anniversary, birthday. We will be hosting a Diamond Grading seminar on July 15th at 7:30. This event is exclusive and is by RSVP only. There are 25 seats available, so hurry. This event is free and there will be some special things given out throughout the night. For RSVP please contact us at WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, located at 41990 Grand River Ave. (248) 347-0333 before July 10th. Hours: Mon., Tue., Wed. & Thurs. 10a.m.-6p.m., Fri. 10a.m.-8p.m., Sat. 10a.m.-5p.m. We are licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry.

A diamond certificate is a complete evaluation of a diamond that has been performed by a qualified professional with the aid of specialty optical instruments. A certificate is a wonderful addition to your diamond purchase.

CIRCUIT COURT SENTENCINGS

These are the cases scheduled for sentencing in Oakland County Circuit Court originating in 52-1 District Court for June 7.

• Nathan Michael Kuhn — Larceny under \$1,000, sentence enhancement (second offense).

• Ruben Francisco Zamora — Felony assault, domestic violence, assault with intent of gross bodily harm.

• Allen James Agee — Operating under the influence of alcohol/per se (third offense), driving while license suspended (second or subsequent offense), sentence enhancement (second offense).

• Christopher Robert Greer (AKA Phatty) — Possession of controlled substance; controlled substance/possession of marijuana.

These are the cases scheduled for sentencing in Oakland County Circuit Court originating in 52-1 District Court for June 8.

• Michael Devon Chouinard — Controlled substance, second offense/double penalty.

These are the cases scheduled for sentencing in Oakland County Circuit Court originating in 52-1 District Court for June 9.

• Eric Todd Hall — Obtain personal identity without authorization; financial transaction device/fraudulent statement; financial transaction device/possession of fraudulent one.

• Raymond Lester Russell, Jr. — Controlled substance, second offense/double penalty; driving while license suspended/second or subsequent offense.

These are the cases scheduled for sentencing in Oakland County Circuit Court originating in 52-1 District Court for June 10.

• Tyrone Carlton Payton — Stolen property, receiving/possessing, over \$1,000 but under \$20,000; failure to display license upon demand.

• Richard Carter, II — Three counts of uttering and publishing; driving while license suspended; sentence enhancement/second offense.

• Tammie Sue Whitmore — Embezzle more than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000.

REDUCE ANXIETY.

MRI or CT done in 72 hours at DMC

1-888-DMC-2500

Sitting on pins and needles waiting for your diagnostic testing? Now you can get an MRI or CT scan scheduled within 72 hours. The Detroit Medical Center guarantees it. We work with your doctor and give them results fast so they can give them to you.

We are Southeast Michigan's leading academic health center, so your results will be analyzed and read by Wayne State Medical School's top teaching physicians. Several of them are nationally recognized radiologists -- among America's top doctors.

The DMC has one of the state's largest networks of MRI and CT scan facilities, with six convenient locations in Oakland and Wayne counties. To schedule your MRI or CT procedures, call 1-888-DMC-2500 or ask your doctor's office to call.

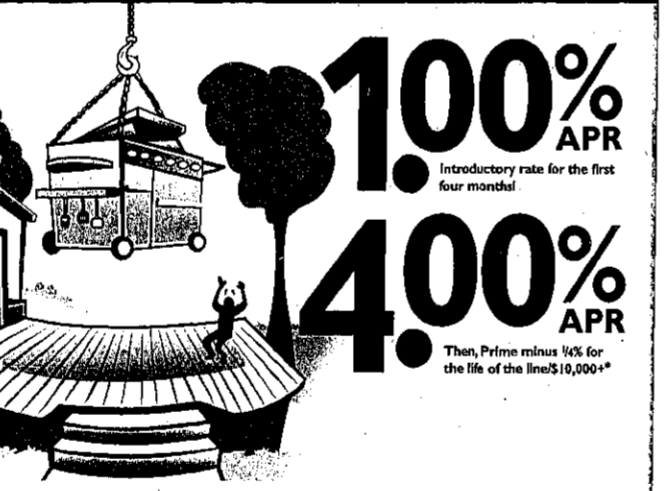
At the DMC, Michigan's best doctors are waiting to see you.

All DMC MRI/CT sites accept most major medical insurance plans.



MRI/CT performed 24/7. 72-hour scheduling includes off-peak hours (7 a.m. - 6 p.m.). Appointments requested during peak hours (8 a.m. - 7 p.m.) may be scheduled within 2 to 10 days. 72-hour scheduling does not include pediatric, isolated or critically ill patients.

HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT



You can put one heck of a deck under that gourmet grill.

A \$20,000 Home Equity Line of Credit could get you a new deck or a remodeled kitchen -- and leave enough for the greatest grill money can buy. While you pay just \$67 a month!*

• 89.99% Loan-to-value (means you get more money out of your home)
• No closing costs • No points • No appraisal costs • No kidding!

To apply call 1-877-TOP-RATE stop in any Charter One Banking Center, or visit us online at charterone.com



*The 89.99% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is available for the first four months after activation, then drops to Prime plus 4.99%, currently 8.99%, assuming a \$1,000 minimum draw at interest. Interest is charged on the amount drawn. APR will be based on Prime plus a margin. If you do not use credit, APR will be 10.99%. From 5/1/04 to 4/30/05, the highest APR available in the "Money Rate" section of the Fitch IBCR Report. There is a variable rate in it change, the APR of your account will change. Based on a rate of 10.99% is applied for the first month. (2) months after account activation. All representations are subject to change without notice.

This offer is limited to new customers. Credit approval is subject to our underwriting standards, which are available upon request. Property insurance required. Final payment may be required. Line of Credit Agreement is available online and you will be required to sign the agreement at the time of the highest outstanding balance used. Also, a copy of the agreement is available at www.charterone.com. All amounts are subject to change without notice. Funds are not available for use until the agreement is signed. Funds are not available for use until the agreement is signed. Funds are not available for use until the agreement is signed. Funds are not available for use until the agreement is signed.

Cost-Effective Statewide Coverage

Place your 2x2 display ad and reach over 3.5 million readers for just \$949! Place a 25 word classified ad and reach over 4 million readers for just \$299! Contact this Newspaper or Wendy and Christine at Michigan Newspapers Inc.

SOON THE MARK OF THE BEAST WILL BE ENFORCED

Those that receive it, will receive the wrath of God. Find out who the BEAST is, and how to avoid his MARK. No obligation. No one will call. Write for free book to THE BIBLE SAYS P.O. BOX 771 ATHENS TN 37371 Phone Toll Free 1-888-211-1715



Thomasville® Summer SALE!

Now thru August 2nd, take advantage of everything Thomasville® has to offer. Dining Rooms, Bedrooms, Living Rooms, Upholstery and more at fantastic savings...and for this week only, quality for

1 YEAR INTEREST FREE...or WE'LL PAY YOUR 6% SALES TAX!

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE

DESIGN SERVICE AVAILABLE New Web Address: www.classicinteriorsfurniture.com

Visit Our In-Store Clearance Center Open: Mon., Thur., Fri. 9:30-9:00; Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30; Sun. 1-5

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile (248) 474-6900

*All discounts are off manufacturers' suggested prices. All prior sales excluded. Offer not valid with any other promotional discount.



public house

Great Sun! Great Food! Great Deal!

Buy one Entrée, get one FREE!

Lunch or dinner, save on everything from burgers to Irish boxties, sandwiches to salmon. Over 40 fabulous items on a menu to tempt ALL taste buds!

A few examples...

Piedmontese Burger.

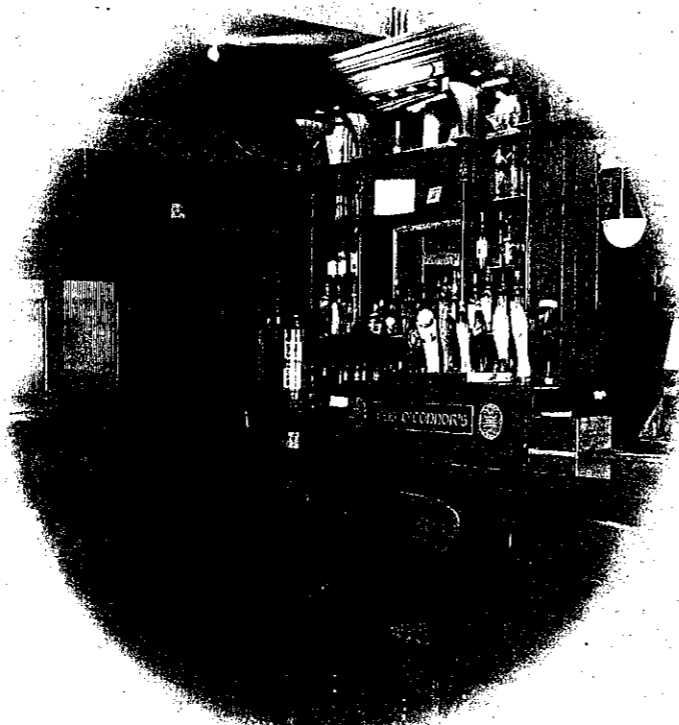
Delicious northern Italian cattle beef with less cholesterol and fat than chicken! One half pound, shredded lettuce, tomato, onion, secret sauce and your choice of cheese.

Irish Boxties.

Our traditional Boxty is a gently seasoned potato pancake stuffed with special ingredients and cooked on a griddle. Choose from Steak, corned beef & cabbage, salmon, veggie or grilled chicken & cheddar. Delicious!

CELEBRATE SUMMER WITH GUS!

- Happy Hour 4:00pm-7:00pm Monday-Friday. 50% off appetizers, \$1.00 off all drinks
- Enjoy drink specials & live music every Thursday & Sunday nights. Sunday nights we feature the KILLER FLAMINGOS!
- NOW OPEN! Relax on our new OUTDOOR PATIO! Or enjoy our other open air area upstairs.



The Largest Authentic Irish Pub In North America!

At Gus O'Connor's, we celebrate pub culture... a culture of hospitable surroundings, good food, good drinks, good music and friendly conversation... what we call "Craic." Enjoy!

**BUY ONE
ENTRÉE, GET
ONE FREE!**

Offer applies to second entrée of equal or lesser value.
Coupon expires 7/31/04

42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48375
248.465.9670 www.gusoconnors.com

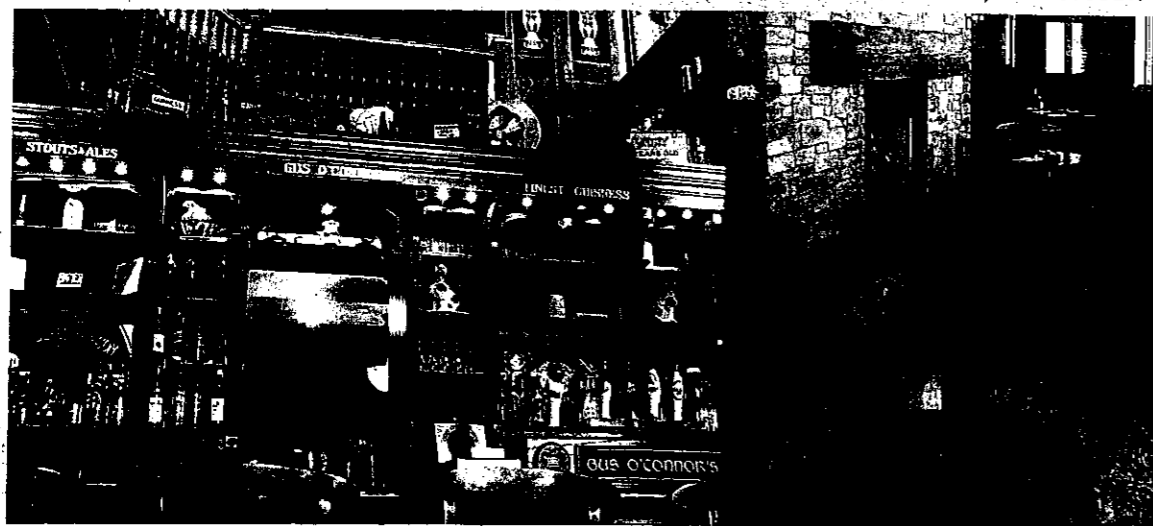
By the way, if you love Fish & Chips, people tell us our lightly beer-battered Harp-crisped Fish & chips are amazing!

Authentic food, perfect pints and legendary craic!

We offer a full bar and menu. Large and private parties are welcome.

www.gusoconnors.com

42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi, Michigan 48375 • 248.465.9670 • Fax: 248.465.9672



NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hours

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Sunday during the summer. We are located at 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, just east of Tait Road. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

Discover New Trails

Sign-up is now underway for the 2004 Summer Reading Program, "Discover New Trails @ Your Library." The program is for children in the fourth grade and below.

Get Lost

Kids going into the fifth grade and beyond are invited to sign up now for "Get Lost @ Your Library." We'll feature awesome programs and prizes throughout the summer.

'Survivor' Library Style

Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate survivor? Kids in the fifth grade and above are invited to test their skills competing in our survivor-style challenges on Monday, July 12, from 1-2 p.m. Please register in advance at the

Teen Summer Reading Table in the library.

Craft Programs

We have two craft programs scheduled for Tuesday, July 13. Crafts for children ages 5-6 will be at 1 p.m.; crafts for children age 7 and up will be at 2 p.m. There is a \$2 materials fee for each 40-minute program. No registration is necessary, but space is limited. These programs are sponsored by Michael's, The Arts and Crafts Store.

Little Creatures

Join us for an exciting adventure with live animals from the rain forest on Wednesday, July 14. There will be a 1 p.m. show for children age 4 and up, and a 7 p.m. show for children of all ages. No registration is required for the 45-minute programs.

Drop-In Story Times

Story time for children ages 4 to 7 will be held Thursday, July 15; story time for 2- and 3-year-olds will be held Friday, July 16. Each 30-minute session begins at 10:30

a.m. No registration is necessary.

Get Lost in an Urban Legend

Storyteller Jennifer Strauss will share popular urban legends on Monday, July 19, from 1-2 p.m. This program is for kids in the fifth grade and above. Please register in advance at the Teen Summer Reading Table in the library.

Joel Tacey

Entertainer Joel Tacey brings his "just for fun" comedy, juggling, and magic show to the library on Wednesday, July 21. There will be a 1 p.m. show for children ages 4 and up, and a 7 p.m. show for children of all ages. No registration is required for the 40-minute programs.

Board Meeting

The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Wednesday, July 21, at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at the Novi Civic Center. Community members are welcome to attend by meeting, which will be broadcast live on cable Channel 13.

Mobile home tax bill defeated

By Jonathan Bardelline
STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Senate Finance committee is discussing a package of mobile home bills, one of which would tax mobile homes based on property value. A similar bill failed two weeks ago in the House of Representatives.

The House voted on House Bill 5934 on June 17, rejecting it by a vote of 46 to 38, with 26 representatives abstaining. Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, said that the reason the same bills are coming forward at the same time is that new mobile home parks are being built, but the taxes paid by park residents do not offset costs to local governments and schools.

"Right now the perception is that those living in stick-built homes are subsidizing mobile home parks," she said.

Mobile home owners currently pay a specific tax of \$3 per month,

a fee set in 1958. The House bill would have repealed that fee on Dec. 30, 2005, and then made mobile homes taxed by property value.

Rep. Chris Ward, a Republican representing portions of Livingston and Oakland counties, voted in favor of the bill and attributed the absentee votes to some not understanding or being wary of the bill. "This was the first time the issue came out of a committee and onto the floor," said Ward, who was a co-sponsor of the bill. "Because the issue is so complex and polarizing, perhaps it was a little too soon for some members."

Rep. Craig DeRoche, R-Novi, said he would support raising taxes paid by mobile home owners, but voted against the House bill. "I think people want mobile homes to be taxed the same as homes, but that bill would have potentially lowered the taxes some mobile homes would pay," he said.

"I think the bill needed more work." One reason Ward said he supported the bill is that the quality of mobile homes has increased over the years with some selling for up to \$100,000.

Ward said that mobile home owners would also benefit from being taxed as property owners in that they would have a better connection with local governments.

He said there is currently a disconnection between mobile home owners and the government, and if that is fixed, then the mobile home owners can demand services such as investigations into building code violations.

Another bill under consideration by the Senate Finance Committee would eliminate the sales tax on mobile homes.

Jonathan Bardelline is an intern at The South Lyon Herald and a student at Wayne State University.

Sam's Club coming

■ Planning commission also looks at cemetery issue

Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

A former cemetery entrance and a future Sam's Club are topping the City of Novi Planning Commission's list of concerns.

A public hearing was set for July 14 regarding a piece of land attached to the Oakland Hills Memorial Cemetery, located on the northeast corner of Twelve Mile and Novi Roads. Property owner William Eldridge wants to rezone that 1.3-acre parcel from a one-family residential to general business usage.

The Sam's Club, which will be part of the quickly developing Novi Promenade complex at Grand River and Wixom, was granted preliminary site plan approval. It is now poised to move onto the Zoning Board of Appeals to receive additional variances.

The cemetery parcel, historically used as the burial entrance to the 150-acre burial ground, was never formally split when Eldridge sold off most of the property in 1996.

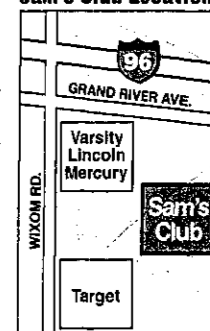
Other driveways are located off of Novi and Twelve Mile roads. Under current zoning, the land can be used for about three homes or kept as a part of the cemetery. The rezoning could allow for an auto wash, bus passenger stations, publicly owned parks or tattoo parlors, among other uses.

"It's not a big enough site for a strip center," said Alan Greene, the lawyer representing Eldridge. "A bank would be ideal for us (or) an upscale wine shop."

Previous attempts to get business zoning were made in 1994 and 1995, but were denied by the planning commission. ZBA and city council, Exxon Mobil Corp. considered building a gas station/convenience store in 2003, but the plan never materialized.

A formal planning review advised against the move. "You really take away from the people who are rested

Sam's Club Location



SOURCE: City of Novi

"I am convinced that we're going to have drivers going in all kinds of directions here," said Markham. "I think it's going to be an issue, especially at Christmas."

This issue will now be addressed by city staff and consultants, including traffic engineers. The same group will also approve the final site plan once it cycles through the ZBA. Bisio said the hope is that construction begins by the beginning of the year, with an opening in August or September 2005.

Doggone It

Scour the City of Novi's zoning ordinance, and you won't find terms such as "kennel" or "dog daycare."

This proves a bit of a predicament if you're the Oakland County Pet Resort & Animal Hospital. Coming before the planning commission June 23, the group follows a recent trend of pet services trying to find a home in Novi.

The business offers veterinary medicine, surgery, dentistry, pool therapy and even "cat condo" amenities for pets. Currently, land designated for "light industrial" use seems most reasonable.

After considering these factors, as well as looking at ordinances for the City of Wixom and Fairfax County, Va., the planning commission agreed to evaluate and possibly change some ordinance language to permit such unlisted "special land uses."

Along with an "implementation committee," the Zoning Board of Appeals will also scope out the issue before it returns to the planning commission.

Kim Kovelie is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or via e-mail at kovelie@lnhomecomm.net.

Introducing... THE NEW
HUON VALLEY-SINAI
HOSPITAL

A New World in Healthcare

FOR YEARS,

you've known Huron Valley-Sinai

Hospital as the hospital with a lot of heart. In fact, our patients give us among

the highest marks in the nation for customer satisfaction. Now we've built our

reputation with a major expansion that enhances our technology, expertise and

superior customer service to make

us the premier hospital in the area.

We invite you to discover our beautiful, distinctive new campus. And while our

recent expansion has changed the way we look on the outside, our heart and soul

are still where you remember them.



Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital
Cleveland Medical Center/Wayne State University
A NEW WORLD IN HEALTHCARE™
1 William Cais Drive • Commerce, Michigan
248-937-3300 • www.hvsh.org

Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Referral Service 866-937-HVSH (4874)

Providence Hospital
In Conjunction with
**The Michigan Association of Physicians of Indian Origin And
Gurunank Sikh Temple**
is Proud to Present Its
FREE ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR
Sunday, July 18, 2004
9:00 am to 1:00 pm
At
Providence Medical Center, Providence Park, Novi
47601 Grand River Ave, Conference Rooms A, B, C and D

- Bone density screenings, Blood Pressure Check-ups and Health related discussions with Primary Care Physicians and specialist from several other specialties.
- Full blood screening panel including sugar, cholesterol, hemoglobin, and PSA will be conducted. **Note: For Blood Test (Pre-Registration required)** In person or by calling 1-800-755-5463. Overnight fasting is required. **NO FOOD IN STOMACH AFTER MIDNIGHT.** Minimum age for Blood test is 25 years and older.
- Information will be available on various health issues including Hormone Replacement Therapy, Breast Cancer, Mammogram, Prostate, Cataract, Nutrition, Exercise, Life Style Enhancements Osteoporosis, Diabetes, Heart Disease ect.
- Cardiologist, Urologists, OB-GYNs, Ophthalmologists, Rheumatologists, Endocrinologists, Internists, Dentists and various other specialists will be on hand for guidance.

All test are FREE and light refreshments provided
Entrance off of Beck Road Just South of Grand River
Park in lot at Southeast Entrance

TUNE IN TO SAVINGS AT AAA

**Stop by the AAA
Insurance Sales Office
on Novi Rd. to Enter!**

Visit our office between now and Friday, August 6 for your chance to win a Home Theatre System (including a 32" TV.) Be sure to bring your non-AAA Auto Insurance Declaration Page for a free, no-obligation rate comparison...and see how auto insurance through AAA offers quality coverage for better value.

AAA Insurance Sales
Maples Place Shopping Center
31174 Novi Rd.
Call 248-668-2750
Weekdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**AAA
Insurance**

Limit one entry per household. No purchase is necessary and will not influence your chances to win. Drawing will be held after close of business on August 6, 2004. Contest details available at our office. Insurance underwritten by Auto Club Insurance Association family of companies.

EDUCATION

Ramez Khuri, school reporter (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net

Work under way on transportation dept.

■ New building should be ready by Christmas

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community School District is getting a jump start on its Christmas shopping this year and at the top of Santa Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Jim Koster's "good" list is Transportation Director Dan Tooman and his staff.

The transportation department building, which has been around at least since the late 1970s, is getting a major face lift this summer and construction isn't supposed to be finished until around Dec. 25. For the most part, the building has already been torn down, except for two sections so the mechanics can continue their work during the summer months. When it's all said and done, the new building, which will be perpendicular to 11 Mile Road, will be large enough to accommodate Novi as it grows and will feature countless improvements.

The cost of the project is about \$2.45 million. That money is part of a bond issue that was passed in 2001, which also included construction on Novi High School. None of it came from the renewal millage and the new recreation millage, which were both passed on June 14. According to Tooman, the reason construction didn't start a year ago is because the project came in over bid.

"We couldn't start the project until we got the bids that came in budget with the bond money that was appropriated for this construction," Tooman said.

Tooman said that by the year 2010, Novi will be about the size of Livonia in terms of the amount of families moving in and houses being built.

"We have made enough accommodations to anticipate how many houses that will take and the new building will be big enough to handle all that," Tooman said. "We will have four work bays and two of those will have ground lifts, one for each mechanic. All four will also be drive through."

Before the building was torn down a only had three bays. The added one will save time as far as labor. The new lounge will be big enough to fit a stove, refrigerator and sink and the drivers will have their own facilities for lunch. There will be a new training room so that the transportation staff will not have to go to the Educational Services Building for more classes. The building will have its own television network where Tooman can broadcast announcements, and it can also be used for training purposes.

Other improvements include a separate communication room, improvements in the lavatories, drivers will have lockers for the first time, a separate bus washer, (which is like a car wash), and the



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi School District's transportation hub is undergoing a demolition and reconstruction effort this summer at its Eleven Mile and Taft Road location.

department's radio antenna on the auditorium tower at the high school is now higher. "That enables us to have a longer range on our radio," Tooman said. "We will have a new conference room with what I will not have to go to the ESB to have private conversations with people. Before I had to walk outside the building or go somewhere else to have a private conversation. We're going to have more storage area and we're going to be right up to date as far as what we need to do to have a good transportation base."

Tooman said that though there was a delay to start the construction, the crew is sticking to the schedule pretty well.

"We're actually catching up after the delay we had because we had to clean out the gas and oil and asbestos that was in the building to start off," he said. "That had to be drained out and washed to be in place. When the drivers come back, the transportation office will still be in its temporary home in the maintenance building."

"It will be our Christmas present, but in the meantime this will not affect the way we do business at all," Tooman said. "It's going to be exactly

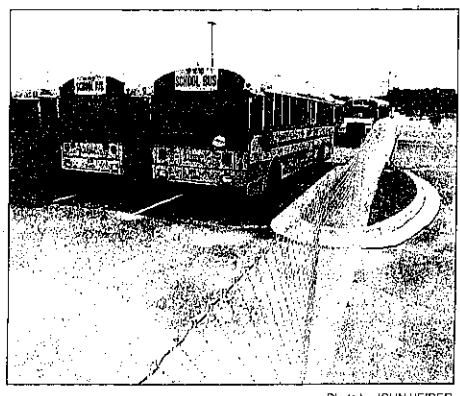


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi School District buses waiting for their new home to be completed in the student parking lot of Novi High.

how it was before except the fact that the office is separate now. We're all apart, but we're still working together. It's an inconvenience, but the wait is worth it."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

New School Board Officers

The Novi Community School District Board of Education elected new officers for the 2004-05 school year on July 1. They are: John Streit, President; Bruce Bagdasary, Vice President; John Balagna, Treasurer; Carol Elfving, Secretary.

Franklin Christian wins contest

During the 2003-2004 school year, over 1,000 students toured The Food Bank of Oakland County and donated a total of 9,647 pounds of non-perishable foods. Classes from schools across Oakland County visited the food bank warehouse in Pontiac, where they toured the entire facility and learned about local hunger issues. Depending on age, the students helped out by either unloading food or by packing snack bags used for the kids' café after-school program. Each visit concluded with weighing the food they brought on the food bank's large scale. Students guessed the number of pounds, and the final weight was entered in a contest with other visiting classes. Franklin Christian School of Novi came in first place with a guessed weight of 1,481 pounds.

The food brought in through the school visits will help the food bank assist the more than 80,000 Oakland County residents who need emergency assistance each month. Food Bank of Oakland County strives to alleviate hunger and poverty by securing, storing and distributing food, information, personal care items and household products to a network of emergency food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters in Oakland County, Michigan. The Food Bank of Oakland County is located at 130 East Columbia Avenue in Pontiac. For more information, log onto www.fbo.org.

Smith wins \$1,000 scholarship

REMAX of Southeastern Michigan recently announced the 20 recipients of its "American Dream" scholarship program, which included Novi resident Kyle Smith of Detroit Catholic Central. The program - \$1,000 to each of 20 student recipients - was originally established as part of the celebration of REMAX of Southeastern Michigan's 25th anniversary in 2003.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

Day care graduates

Blooming Day Child Care, operating the Montessori based Center in Novi for the last eight years, just completed the ceremony for the graduating class of 2004.

Another skill

"I think taking virtual classes is another skill that I believe students need to know how to use well," said Davis, "but it will never replace real teaching and learning and that whole social dynamic that goes on when you're in a group class setting and interacting with a live human beings. There is so much more that goes into the high school experience with all the co-curricular activities and sports. Virtual learning is just one piece of that whole experience."

Davis said that when students go to college or to work, chances are very good that they're going to have to use this learning mobility, like taking a class online or communicating online. Students need to be equipped, when they leave Novi High School, to go out and be successful in the virtual world.

"I think virtual classes will have a small place in the high school curriculum," Davis said. "We're going to hope to continue to offer classes next year. It depends on what students need, and we will be looking at the expense. We were able to fund it this year fortunately as a pilot, and I'm hopeful we will be able to put it into the budget for next year."

A second aspect that makes students successful in virtual learning is that they have to be self-motivated. In a virtual classroom, students are not able to just sit and have teachers pour information into them. They have to participate, they have to seek out information and they have to be present in their virtual class. Nobody is chasing them down the hall and telling them they have to be on time, although that requirement is made in Novi High School.

At the time, the virtual high school offered a limited variety of courses to students all over the state. There had been talk about bringing the program to Novi because the Oakland Intermediate School District had also been looking at how they could help school districts in Oakland County to get into the online world.

"They have to be in a class working on online courses for a period of their schedule at Novi High," Davis said. "They can go into the class any time right or day and they have to be able to keep up with that class. The whole idea is with self-motivated, organized and diligent. All of the things that should go into any successful learner certainly apply and probably even more so in a virtual class. If you go a few days and let things slide or slip, it's hard for some students to catch up and get back on track."

Getting started Online classes at Novi High School are printed in the course catalog now as an option, so when students are looking for course plans for the next year, they can take advantage of them. If they need to take a class that's not available in the traditional sense, or if they have a schedule conflict, they can certainly look into the possibility of online courses.

Davis said that sometimes there are special circumstances - a student might be a professional ice skater, or they play hockey, or something else that takes them away from school for long periods of time - and online courses may be the answer for them. Even for a long-term illness or some disability, which means that they can't be in school, virtual classes are great for meeting that kind of a need as well.

There is also an online orientation tool that was part of the Virtual High School package, which allows the students to go through a simulation of a class where they have to answer questions about themselves and their learning style. They get a good sense of what it takes to be in a virtual class, and then they can decide if they want to do it or if it's going to be too much for them.

"I think that Novi High School and Novi Middle School counselors did a great job of talking with students and letting them know what this is going to be like and really helping them understand (that) it is a responsibility, it is work. It's not just a class they can take lightly," Davis said. "They have to work hard at it just like any other class."

A Virtual Success Story

■ Goal's to make online courses a regular part of the student experience at Novi High School

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

As Novi Community School District administrators implemented the presence of Virtual High School (online courses) at Novi High School this past year, they really weren't sure what the reaction would be from students, or even how they would end up doing in those courses.

Given the academic track record of most Novi students, however, administrators were optimistic that the program would run smoothly and that the kids would be successful.

They were right. Students were able to start taking online courses during second semester, and it wasn't only high schoolers who took advantage of the program. Thirty-nine students signed up in all, with one being a fifth-grader at Novi Meadows and at least a couple being adult education students.

Kids at the high school, who actually sat in a block class to work on their courses, could do so on a computer and conceivably be taking 11, 12 or even 13 different classes during that same period of time - and most were successful.

The beauty of the program, according to Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Nancy Davis, is that students can go to class at that time during school, but they can also go to class any other time as well, including nights and weekends.

"Anywhere you can get on the Internet, you can go to class," Davis said. "That's one of the neat things about virtual classes. It was great timing when I came here in the fall because we were able to pilot the use of virtual classes at the high school, and we got it started in the second semester. We had a good response and some interesting success stories."

A second aspect that makes students successful in virtual learning is that they have to be self-motivated. In a virtual classroom, students are not able to just sit and have teachers pour information into them. They have to participate, they have to seek out information and they have to be present in their virtual class. Nobody is chasing them down the hall and telling them they have to be on time, although that requirement is made in Novi High School.

At the time, the virtual high school offered a limited variety of courses to students all over the state. There had been talk about bringing the program to Novi because the Oakland Intermediate School District had also been looking at how they could help school districts in Oakland County to get into the online world.

"They have to be in a class working on online courses for a period of their schedule at Novi High," Davis said. "They can go into the class any time right or day and they have to be able to keep up with that class. The whole idea is with self-motivated, organized and diligent. All of the things that should go into any successful learner certainly apply and probably even more so in a virtual class. If you go a few days and let things slide or slip, it's hard for some students to catch up and get back on track."

Getting started Online classes at Novi High School are printed in the course catalog now as an option, so when students are looking for course plans for the next year, they can take advantage of them. If they need to take a class that's not available in the traditional sense, or if they have a schedule conflict, they can certainly look into the possibility of online courses.

Davis said that sometimes there are special circumstances - a student might be a professional ice skater, or they play hockey, or something else that takes them away from school for long periods of time - and online courses may be the answer for them. Even for a long-term illness or some disability, which means that they can't be in school, virtual classes are great for meeting that kind of a need as well.

There is also an online orientation tool that was part of the Virtual High School package, which allows the students to go through a simulation of a class where they have to answer questions about themselves and their learning style. They get a good sense of what it takes to be in a virtual class, and then they can decide if they want to do it or if it's going to be too much for them.

"I think that Novi High School and Novi Middle School counselors did a great job of talking with students and letting them know what this is going to be like and really helping them understand (that) it is a responsibility, it is work. It's not just a class they can take lightly," Davis said. "They have to work hard at it just like any other class."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

Sonia Parmley retires after 26 years at Novi Meadows

■ Week-long celebration started with bouquet of roses

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

A mixture of fun, excitement and sadness surrounded Sonia Parmley during the last week of school. She was given roses, her own parking spot, an office sign along Taft Road that read, "We will miss you Mrs. Parmley." She also received a lot of her favorite things in a basket.

Wednesday, Parmley was pronounced queen for the day, complete with settings, "They put up curtains for me with fine china and a wonderful breakfast," Parmley said. "Day to day they are surprising me with something. They told me I had to leave right away so that they could set up for the next day."

On Thursday, Parmley's office was filled with balloons, and on Friday, a big retirement party was held in her honor at the Italian Epicure Restaurant, where everybody read thank

you notes to her. "I truly have enjoyed my job," she said. "I enjoy the children, it's a wonderful age group, and I've had a wonderful staff to work with. The children are learning a lot of things, but they have just been a joy. It's been a great place to work."

Parmley's three children, who are now all in their 30s, each went through the Novi Community School District, so not only did her professional life revolve around the schools, but her personal life did as well. "I really have a lot of projects to do at home," she said. "I'm now into golf, and I want to take training lessons."

Parmley said that her husband will probably be retiring this year also, and the two would like to do some traveling. He has been working for Danier/Cherly for 40 years. "I think back then you would say with a company that long," Parmley said. "Nowadays you don't, but at that time they did. He worked very hard and enjoyed it."

Now they can both enjoy some well deserved time together. Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

Clean Out Your Closets and ca\$h in!

\$H

ONLINE AUCTION SERVICES

WE SELL YOUR ITEMS ONLINE. YOU CASH IN!

We provide a fast and hassle free way for you to sell your items on eBay (an online market with millions of buyers). Just drop off your items at our store or call us for a free pickup. We do rest! When your item sells, we send you a check!

Bring Us Your:

- Antiques & Collectibles
- Clothing (Fine Brands Only)
- Cameras/Compact
- CDs/Snap
- Consumer Electronics
- Video Game Systems
- Computers/Laptops
- Musical Instruments

Our Professional Service Includes:

- Free pickup of your items
- No Upfront fees
- High quality professional photographs
- 100% eBay Auction
- Yelp/Electronic
- Free Tools
- Jewelry

31036 Grand River Farmington, MI 248-442-CASH
www.cashindropoff.com

Pre-plan Together so no one has to plan Alone

Call 248-349-2734 to speak to a Family Service Counselor

Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens
West Twelve Mile and Novi Road

Hey Kids! Come join Our "NO CAVITY CLUB!"

All Children 14 years of age and under who come in for a dental check-up and have no cavities are entered in our drawing. At the end of the month one boy and one girl are chosen as winners of a gift certificate to Toys R Us!

Winners of the NO Cavity Club for June are
Emily Robinson and David Ayala

Adam Ackerman
Trevor Ackerman
Karla Ayala
Monica Ayala
Ashley Bralford
Austin Feigt

Brittany Hamilton
Jessica Hamilton
Matthew Kirk
Matthew Maslowski
John Mitchell
Michael Mitchell

Robert Mitchell
Sarah Rafallo
Eric Stigert
Brian Stewart

• DENTISTRY FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN •
Dr. A. Allen Tuckloper
Eaton Center 43410 W. Ten Mile Novi
248-348-3100

HOME SCHOOLING?

You can teach your children!

• A Beka Book
• Character-Building Textbooks
• Time-Saving Parent Materials

• A Beka Academy
• Master Teachers on DVD
• Complete K-12 Programs

Display info: 1-800-874-3597 ext. 338 www.abeka.org/338

Flint—July 16
Traverse City—July 20
Gaylord—July 21
Cadillac—July 22
Plymouth—July 26
Warren—July 27
Jackson—July 28

POST OFFICE BOXES AVAILABLE

The Livonia Greenmead Post Office located on the corner of Pembroke and Newburgh has Post Office Boxes available for immediate rental. The boxes range in size from 3 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches to 20 x 11 inches. The rental fee for a six month period begins at \$19.00 and ends at \$175.00. Customers have access to their boxes from 5:30 am until 9:00 pm each day and box mail is available by 10:00 am, Monday through Saturday.

May 10-Aug 1 Golden Arm Challenge

Use your Players Club Card when you play craps from now until August 1st at MGM Grand for your chance at \$25,000! Make the most consecutive passes in any given day and win \$500! Make the most in a week and you'll be entered in the Golden Arm "Roll Off" and your chance at \$25,000! It's action packed and it's only at MGM Grand. See Players Club for details.

MGM GRAND DETROIT CASINO

Back by Popular Demand!

Novi presents michigan 50s festival

At Our New Location
Novi's Newest Entertainment District
Fountain Walk

Experience the Sights, Sounds & Flavors of The Michigan 50's Fest

- 50's Festival Speed Show with legendary black #3 GM Goodwrench Chevrolet Monte Carlo formerly driven by 7 time NASCAR Winston Cup Champion Dale Earnhardt brought to you by Marty Feldman Chevrolet
- Vegas tent brought to you by Varsity Lincoln Mercury
- Kids Fair with Trout Pond, Reel Climbing Wall, a large Carnival and Helicopter Rides and Shriners' Bus with Clowns
- Friday Night Fireworks brought to you by Jaguar of Novi, Bob Sellers GMC, Stumm Motor Sales, The Suburban Collection on Hagerty's Road and Varsity Lincoln Mercury.
- Saturday free Ice Cream Social brought to you by Cold Stone Creamery and Michigan Milk Producers, and donut dipping brought to you by Krissy Kream Donuts
- Saturday 17th Annual Car Show and Cruise brought to you by Varsity Lincoln Mercury and Novi Expo Center
- Commercial Vendors, Arts and Crafts Vendors • Softball Tournament, 5K Run

FREE Entertainment nightly by Bright House Networks

- Wednesday, July 28th 50's Entertainment
- Thursday, July 29th Rocky & The Rollers
- Friday, July 30th The Drifters
- Saturday, July 31st Hermans Hermitts Starring Peter Noone

Advance Carnival tickets \$10
Visit www.michigan50sfestival.com or call 248.349.1950 for up to date schedules.

HomeTown Varsity

You're Invited...

Sunday Brunch

and tour the Village!

July 11th 12:30pm-2:00pm
Call for Reservations 800-803-5811

"Summer's On Us!"**
Call for details.

Before you make a decision to move into a retirement community, you've got to visit our community in Plymouth and talk to our knowledgeable staff about the wonderful senior lifestyles we've created.

We have an exciting activities calendar. We serve delicious meals in a warm and comfortable dining room. And we have apartment homes with all the amenities you're looking for and a wide range of floor plans and sizes.

Call us today and make an appointment to tour our community. Come join us for lunch, dinner or ask about our Stay & Play!

Independence Village Plymouth

Senior Living At It's Best!
14707 Northville Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170
www.independencevillages.com
800-803-5811

OPEN DAILY
PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY FIRST REALTY

SENIORS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net

Senior honors the signers of Declaration of Independence

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

In honor of this Independence Day, Cliff Holfory decided to go back to the source. The 77-year-old resident of Fox Run Village retirement community single-handedly created a display honoring the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence. Showcased from June 28 until this Saturday, July 10, the exhibit features biographies about each signer, as well as information about their wives and fates. Holfory also has included a "deciphered" version of the declaration — originally penned in ornate script — and trivia on John Trumbull's classic "The Declaration of Independence" painting, which was completed 10 years after the actual signing and is peppered with inaccuracies. "I have always had an interest in history in general," said Holfory. "One of my World War II buddies a couple years ago sent me some information, and it renewed my interest in this particular subject."

Holfory served in the army from Dec. 1943 until May 1946 as a sergeant with an intelligence and reconnaissance platoon. This past week, the presentation also included showings of films "1776" and "The Crossing." Today at 4 p.m., a lecture by Marc Kruman, history professor at Wayne State, as well as a special "1776 remembrance" meal for the community's residents will be offered. Several readings for the visually-impaired residents of Fox Run were also performed. A retired architect structural engineer, Holfory created the display out of foam board, red and blue construction paper, and plenty of printer ink. He used internet search engine Google for most of his information. "Anywhere from two to six hours a day, for eight weeks, I was working on it," said Holfory.

"It takes quite a while to read all of this." The display is located in the living room on the second floor of the Ascot Club, located at the Fox Run Village on 41000 Thirteen Mile Road.

Kim Kovelie is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or kovelie@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by Kim Kovelie

Cliff Holfory, a resident at the Fox Run senior community, points out details in John Trumbull's "Declaration of Independence" painting to James Walter, another resident. The exhibit, which honors the 56 signers of the declaration, will be on display until Saturday.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

- Thursday 7/8**
- 8:45 a.m. Golf League-Mixed
 - 9:00 a.m. Line Dance
 - 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday Show Open noon
 - 12:15 p.m. Bridge
 - 12:30 p.m. Book Discussion at Novi Library
 - 1 p.m. Beginners Line Dance
 - 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Computer-Beginners Family Concert-Series Lakeshore Park-7 p.m.
 - Huron Country Playhouse-Trip
- Friday 7/9**
- 9 a.m. Panera Bread
 - 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength
 - 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday Show open noon
 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Bingo
 - 12:30 p.m. Clogging
 - 12:30 p.m. Duopl. Bridge
- Monday 7/12**
- 8:45 a.m. Golf League-Men
 - 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength
 - 10 a.m. Body Recall
 - 11 a.m. Gossip Lady
 - 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday Show Open noon
 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Pincle
 - 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Computer-Beginners
- 6:30 p.m. Put-In-Bay Trip**
- Tuesday 7/13**
- 9 a.m. Panera Bread
 - 9:30 a.m. Line Dance
 - 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Computer Class-Intro
 - 10 a.m. Asian Pacific
 - 11 a.m. "Getting a Good Night's Sleep," Sharon T. Rossi
 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Bingo
 - 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Focus Hope Distribution
 - 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Computer Class-Internet
- Wednesday 7/14**
- 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength
 - 9 a.m. Golf League-Women
 - 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Massage Therapy
 - 10 a.m. Body Recall
 - 10:30 a.m. Quilting
 - 11 a.m. Blood Pressure
 - 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday Shop Open
 - 11 a.m. TOPS Class
 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Clogging
 - 12:30 p.m. Jerry's Movies-FREE highlights of "Carol Burnett"
- *Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Phone (248) 347-0414. All other activities are held at the Novi Senior Center at Meadowbrook Commons, 25075 Meadowbrook Road (just north of Ten Mile Road, on the west side).

SAVVY SENIOR - KNEE REPLACEMENT OPTIONS

Some time back, I read your column about a new hip replacement procedure that has patients up and recovering sooner, has them spending less time in the hospital and may even cost less money. Sounds great. But I don't have a hip problem, I have a knee problem, and I wonder if there's a similar knee replacement surgery. I'm an active senior who pastors a large church and I'm dreading the lengthy recovery, not to mention pain that is part of the conventional remedy. Can you help?

Your prayers will be answered! A new technique is now available for worn-out knees, called the Zimmer Minimally Invasive Solutions (MIS) Quad-Sparing Knee Replacement. Each year, more than 300,000 Americans (most over age 65) undergo total knee replacements because of arthritis, injury, or a lifetime's worth of wear-and-tear and that number is growing dramatically. Using modified techniques and instruments, surgeons can now place the same clinically proven implants used in traditional knee replacement surgery, but through a much smaller incision and without cutting through key tendons and muscles. In traditional surgery, the surgeon makes a 12-inch incision down the front of the knee and the tendon and quadriceps muscle, which controls the bending of the knee, are cut. In the MIS procedure, a 3-to-5-inch incision is made on the side of the knee, and the tendon and "quad" muscle are separated, rather than cut. Because of that, recovery time is dramatically reduced.

The potential benefits of the Zimmer MIS quad-sparing knee replacement as compared to traditional surgery include:

- Less tissue trauma and scarring.
- Shorter hospital stays (2-3 days, rather than 4-5 days). In fact, many patients who have had the MIS knee replacement go home the same day.
- Less pain.
- Greater range of motion.
- Faster rehabilitation. Usually around five weeks versus three months.
- Quicker return to work or daily activities.
- Cost. Because you are in and out of the hospital quicker and recovery is quicker, the cost may be lowered by around 30 percent.

The MIS Knee Replacement is a new procedure, so studies on the long-term implications are limited. The MIS knee replacement procedure is a great option, but it's not for everybody. You'll need to consult with your doctor.

For more information, visit www.PaceWithLife.com, or call 1-866-346-3647.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 3443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvyseniors.org. Jim Miller is a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Stretch yourself by pursuing opportunity

By Ernie Harwell

"For all sad words of tongue or pen, The sweetest words of all are 'It might have been!'"

—John Greenleaf Whittier

Whittier was describing a lost chance for love, but these words apply to any missed opportunity. An important way to keep our minds sharp — and make life interesting — is to take on challenges and hunt for opportunities not in plain view.

When I was 16, I was a faithful reader of *The Sporting News*, but I was disappointed they didn't provide much coverage from my part of the country. So I decided to offer my services as a correspondent for them in the Atlanta area. They accepted my offer and it was a great start to my career. And I've always been grateful that I didn't let my young age keep me from pursuing it.

When we challenge ourselves (physically, mentally or both) we stretch ourselves as individuals and discover more about ourselves — no matter what age we are. Take some time to think about your interests and what opportunities you could pursue. It's great mental exercise and, when you go after that opportunity, it's certainly a lot more rewarding than somebody saying, "It might have been."

And remember to take care of your health before it's too late!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 35 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of 60 years. His latest book is a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.

Providence buying defibrillator for Novi High

School's goal is to eventually have six AEDs

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Novi High Principal John Lawrence knows the importance of safety in his school. That's why he has set a goal of installing six Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) located in various locations throughout the building. With two already in place and at least one more expected to be purchased as early as this fall, that goal is well on its way to being achieved.

That one will be provided by Providence Hospital President Rob Casalou. After hearing of Lawrence's plan, he decided to help out by purchasing one and donating it to the school.

"I read a story in the *Novi News* that said the students at Novi High School donated \$1,000 towards a defibrillator," Casalou said. "I know they cost more than that, so I called the principal,



R. Casalou

He explained that it's very easy to use. There is training, but even if one doesn't have training, he or she can still use it. "It's easy to put the pads on a victim's chest, and the machine automatically reads whether they have a heartbeat or not," Casalou said. "You don't have to know if they're actually having a heart attack because the machine will be able to sense it. If the machine senses that the person is in fact having cardiac arrest, the user has to push a button, and the machine will deliver a shock to the heart in order to restart it."

Someone holding the arm of the victim doesn't even have to worry about getting shocked because defibrillators have safeguards that will not allow them to be harmed. The machine will restore a normal rhythm to a heart in order to buy time for the victim to make it to a hospital. Casalou said that when people have heart attacks out in the public and they don't receive immediate attention usually within four to five minutes, which is the critical time to render treatment, sometimes it's often too late when they arrive at the emergency room.

"The Novi Police Department took the lead in making sure all the police cars have the defibrillators and obviously the fire department has them too," Casalou said. "A lot of times when there is a 911 call to the community, the police are the first to arrive. Sometimes they get there even before the ambulance does, so we try to make sure that the police officers have them because anyone there who has a machine can save a life. That is very impressive. And for \$3,000, which is about what they cost, to save one life over the whole life of that machine is worth every penny."

When the new machine is installed at Novi High in the fall, five faculty members will be trained to use it by Providence. Lawrence is very appreciative of the offer.

"It's a partnership which we cherish, and we're looking forward to nurturing it in coming years," said Lawrence. "There are a lot of benefits that can be gained on both sides."

Lawrence said that the school has a limited amount of funds which it can spend, but anything that involves a human being's life is crucial.

"As hard as we work to ensure safety for our students and staff in this high school, this goes right along with that," Lawrence said. "We're taking every measure we can to make sure that we provide a safe environment for students."

Lawrence explained that Novi High School is growing in leaps and bounds. In fact, a new wing that's approximately 150,000 square feet will be finished in the fall.

"We'll have so much more room for people in this building, and with all of the information coming to us in terms of incidents and the need for this kind of device, what better time to put an appropriate number of them into the high school so that we can avert any disaster," Lawrence said.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.



Chris Lada and daughter Nicole participated in one of the five Walks with Ernie.

Area resident 'Walks with Ernie'

Nearly 600 persons from across Southeast Michigan and as far as Houghton Lake gathered in the courtyard of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's downtown Detroit offices Sunday, June 27, to walk nearly two miles to a Tigers game at Comerica Park with 86-year-old Ernie Harwell, the legendary Hall of Fame sports broadcaster.

Ernie will lead other walks Sunday, July 25, in Lansing; Sunday, Aug. 1, in Grand Rapids; Saturday, Oct. 9, in Marquette; and Saturday, Oct. 30, in Frankfort. For a free walking log and for more information about WalkingWorks and upcoming activities, visit the Michigan Blues Web site at www.bcbms.com.

ness and living healthy through a series of free walks statewide through its WalkingWorks program. Its goal is to raise awareness of the benefits of moderate exercise in reducing risk of preventive disease and obesity and, in turn, keeping health care costs affordable.

Walkers included Chris Lada and daughter Nicole from Wixom, Michigan, along with Harwell. Chris has his Tiger shirt signed by 1984 team members Tom Brookins, Darrel Evans and Dave Burman, along with Harwell.

For the second straight season, Harwell is teaming with the Michigan Blues to promote fit-

JULY BLAST

Private party only.
Buy 4 lines,
3 consecutive days, in our
HomeTown GreenSheet Classifieds
and get 3 days for free!

No real estate ads/rentals. Some restrictions apply.
To place your ad, call 888-999-1288 today!

Green Sheet CLASSIFIEDS

MARK R. DIEDERICH

Congratulations to an agent who goes the extra mile to meet your needs.

MARK R. DIEDERICH
The Diederich Agency, Inc.
43450 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375
phone 248.347.3630
Marshall, MI
phone 269.781.3762
Burton, MI
phone 810.244.6111
Saginaw, MI
phone 989.790.2660

Nearly everyone reads

the Novi News

Don't be the last to find out what's going on.
Call 1-888-840-4809
to become a subscriber.

Novi News

Nationwide is On Your Side

Some insurance agents go above and beyond providing personalized service, giving good advice and the protection you need. At Nationwide Insurance, these agents are named to our Presidents Conference. This is one of them. Congratulations for a job well done. We couldn't think of a better agent to have on your side. And on ours.

Nationwide Insurance & Financial Services

CREATIVE BRICK CONCEPTS

Your Brick Specialists

- Walkways • Driveways • Patios
- Porches • Retaining Walls
- Custom Built Steps
- Brick Paver Lighting
- Brick Paving Accessories
- Powerwashing & Maintenance

All Work Guaranteed

BRICK PAVER PATIO 300 sq. ft. \$3295 Starting at...

BRICK PAVER PATIO 200 sq. ft. \$2295 Starting at...

CALL TOLL FREE: 877-99-BRICK (877-992-7425)

Proud to be a part of this great community

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME

41555 Grand River Avenue
Novi, Michigan 48375-1822
(248)348-1800

John J. O'Brien John P. O'Brien
Michael D. Watt

State Licensed-Board Certified Funeral Directors
Family owned
www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

Offering Prearrangements & Pre-financing

GETTING DIVORCED?

"FREE REPORT Reveals Legal Secrets You Don't Want Your Spouse To Know!"

A divorce can get nasty. REAL nasty. That's why we put together this new FREE REPORT that explains the 7 dirty divorce tricks your spouse might play on you. Wouldn't you like to know them first?

24 Hour Toll Free Pre-Recorded Message
1-800-758-5208

Keeping your family cool this summer

Blue Dot

We heat • We cool • We plumb

1-800-BLUE-DOT (258 3368)
www.bluedotmi.com

The Best Money Market Account

Current APY 2.00%

on a money market account at the \$25,000 deposit level.

1. Flagstar Bank 2.00% APY
2. Bank One 0.90% APY
3. Fifth Third 0.70% APY
4. Comerica 0.50% APY
5. Charter One Bank 0.40% APY

FLAGSTAR BANK

Open 7:30 am - 7:30 pm**
In-Store branches open 7 days a week.
Convenient 24-hour banking.
(800) 642-0039

www.flagstar.com Member FDIC

*Flagstar Bank Money Market Account Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is as of 6/15/04 and is subject to change without notice. Account fees could reduce earnings. APY is 2.00% for balances of \$50,000 or more; 1.80% for balances of \$25,000-\$49,999; 1.60% for balances of \$10,000-\$24,999; 1.40% for balances of \$5,000-\$9,999; 1.20% for balances of \$1,000-\$4,999; and 1.00% for balances below \$1,000 on any day of the cycle. Not available for business or public units. Other restrictions may apply. **Drive Up banking only.

CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@nl.homecomm.net

EVENTS

Obtuse Jugglers

DATE: Thursday, July 8
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Lakeshore Park (located on South Lake Drive, across from Walled Lake)
DETAILS: Set to lively, beat-driven music, the team's juggling routines are smooth and spectacular. Non-residents charged \$4 per car to enter the park. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be moved indoors at the Novi Civic Center.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0473.

Amish Country Craft Show

DATE: July 16-17
TIME: Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Expo Center
DETAILS: Craft show featuring the very best Amish quilts and crafts direct from Lancaster, Pa. Parking is \$5.
CONTACT: Call (717) 687-8548 or visit www.amishcountrytraditions.com.

8minuteDating Event

DATE: Monday, July 19
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Shaman's Irish Pub, Laurel Park Drive, Livonia
DETAILS: At each 8minuteDating event, singles meet one-on-one for eight minutes and then move on to the next introduction. Afterward, they log on to www.8minuteDating.com to choose whom they would like to see again. If the feeling is mutual, information is exchanged.
CONTACT: Erin Quinn at www.8minuteDating.com or at (248) 921-5905.

Novi High School Band Booster Car Wash

DATE: Saturday, July 24
TIME: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
LOCATION: Parking lot of Dr. Spillane's office at 10 Mile/Taft Rd. and at Meadowbrook Congregational Church on Meadowbrook Rd. between Eight and Nine Mile roads.
CONTACT: Sharon at (248) 349-4461.

Novi High School Band Boosters 2nd Annual Golf Outing

DATE: Sunday, August 1
LOCATION: The Links of Novi
CONTACT: Sharon at (248) 349-4461.

Acoustic Music Jam Session

DATE: the second Wednesday of each month
TIME: 7-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Mill Race Historic Village, Cady Inn, just north of Main Street on Griswold in Northville.
DETAILS: Bring your traditional acoustic instrument and music to play.
CONTACT: Mary or Eric at (248) 760-9694 or MaryH@wmii.com.

17th Annual Tycoon Tee-Off Golf Outing

DATE: Wednesday, August 18
LOCATION: Links of Novi
DETAILS: The Novi Chamber of Commerce's 17th annual outing.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3743.

CLASSES

Summer Yoga

DATE: through July 22
TIME: 7-8:15 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Middle School Room 520
DETAILS: This class will center on yoga postures and practices to strengthen, tone and limber the body. This class is intended for beginners and continuing students. Avoid heavy food prior to class. Wear stretchable clothing and bare feet. Bring an exercise mat and water. Fee is \$42.
CONTACT: (248) 449-1206 for registration.

Providence Center for the Healing Arts "Tuesdays at Assarian"

DATE: every Tuesday night
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River, Novi.
DETAILS: Variety of activities for the adult community to come and enjoy a unique mix of classes brought to you by the Providence

Center for the Healing Arts. Aug. 26 - Modern Japanese Calligraphy, Ceramics. Some activities may include a supplies fee (no more than \$10).
CONTACT: (248) 465-5483.

SWOCC Studio Tours

DATE: On-going
LOCATION: 33300 Nine Mile Road, Farmington
DETAILS: SWOCC Studios, your local community television studio, offers tours to many organizations such as Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and service clubs. The groups also have an opportunity to make a short promo for the public access channel, INFO TV-12.
CONTACT: Melissa Cohn at (248) 473.2840 to schedule your group.

HEALTH

Free Blood Pressure Screening

DATES: every Monday
TIME: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
DETAILS: This service will be available until Jan. 31.
LOCATION: Charter House of Novi, 24500 Meadowbrook Road, Novi, MI 48375
CONTACT: (248) 477-2000.

Oakland County Health Division Child Health Clinics

DETAILS: Free wellcare check-ups, immunizations, physical exams, guidance/referrals on behavioral, learning, and health problems.
CONTACT: Oakland County Health Division, Mary White, program coordinator, Child Health Clinics, (248) 858-1380.

BUSINESS

Chamber After-Hours Mixer

DATE: Thursday, July 22
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Cornerstone Dental Studio, Inc. and Goodman Orthodontics, PC, 42430 W. Twelfth Mile Road
DETAILS: Bring your business cards, meet area business representatives, make connections, mix and mingle at this great networking

opportunity; cost is \$10.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3743.

Business Referrals

DATE: every Wednesday
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Rd.
TIME: 7-8:30 a.m.
DETAILS: Meeting of local professionals and business looking to increase word-of-mouth referral business. Various classifications open and eager to bring you qualified business leads.
CONTACT: (734) 462-6160.

FAITH

Worship Service

DATE: every Wednesday
TIME: 12:10-12:50 p.m.
LOCATION: Church of the Holy Cross, 46200 W. Ten Mile Road (between Beck and Taft Roads), Novi
DETAILS: Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship service that includes scripture and holy communion.
CONTACT: (248) 349-1175 or www.churchoftheholycross.com.

St. James Catholic Church Friendship Circle

DATE: second Tuesday of the month
TIME: 1 p.m.
DETAILS: Social group for widows and widowers. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and fun.
LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church, 46325 Ten Mile Rd., (between Taft and Beck)

SUPPORT GROUPS

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: every Saturday
TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom (parking is behind the church).
DETAILS: You are welcome to come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer as you face life's problems, issues and frustrations. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
CONTACT: Nancy & Susan (248) 926-8332 or by e-mail at harvestfellowship@comcast.net.

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATES: second and fourth Tuesdays
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce, Classroom C on the ground floor of the hospital.
TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: There is no need to call ahead and register.
CONTACT: (248) 937-5017.

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: first and third Tuesdays
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, activities room
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Call Colleen at

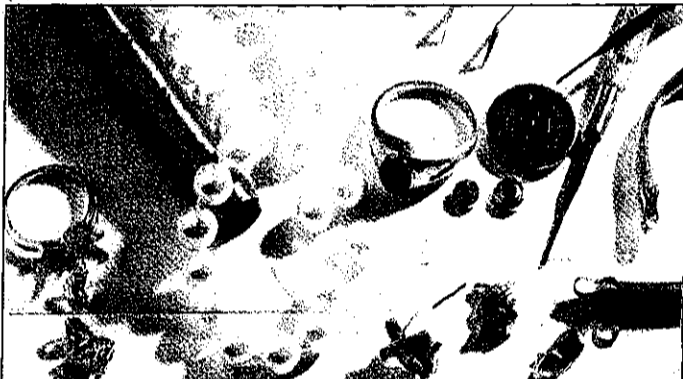
Adoption Playgroup

DATE: first and third Fridays of the month
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church (on Meadowbrook Rd. between 10 Mile Rd. and Grand River Rd.)
DETAILS: We are a not-for-profit, non-denominational group that brings adoptive families together. Our twice-a-month meetings provide families with the opportunity to share play and conversation. During the summer, we meet at specially designated times and locations.
CONTACT: For more information contact Michelle Pergeau (248) 887-4955 or Sandra Noonan (248) 960-3257.

Oakland County Health Division Expectant Parent Classes

DATE: ongoing series
LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 East West Maple, Walled Lake
TIME: 7-9 p.m.
DETAILS: Classes will be taught by Public Health Nurses. Topics will include childbirth preparation, labor and delivery, care of the newborn baby, breastfeeding, bottle-feeding, information about keeping children safe, and caring for them when they are ill. Cost is \$25.
CONTACT: (248) 858-4003, or (888) 350-0900 ext. 84003.

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9332; or e-mail to cstone@nl.homecomm.net.



REPAIR WEEK

July 12th - 17th

Mon.-Th. 10-6pm, Fri. 10-8pm, Sat. 10-5pm

- GEM RESETTING
- JEWELRY CLEANING AND INSPECTION
- RESIZING RINGS
- EARRING AND CLASP REPAIR

Weinstein Jewelers of Novi

41990 Grand River
Between Meadowbrook & Novi Rd.
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 347-0303

Landscaping

We'll Meet or Beat any offer

Todd's Services will not be undersold on any landscaping package

Landscape Design	Mulching	Natural Rock & Timber	Retaining Walls
Hydro-Seeding	Stumps & Trees	Sprinkler Systems	Brick Paver Patios & Walkways
Soil Testing	Soil Walls	Landscape Lighting	Docks & Outdoor Structures

Todd's Services will meet or beat any competitor's estimate on landscaping packages of \$3,000 or more or you're going to dinner on us (a \$50 value).

6 Months Same As Cash

0% or 6.9% Financing for 48 Months

Limited Time Offer

TODD'S SERVICES

auto rain, inc.

Celebrating 25 Years!

TSI voted the county's #1 preferred landscaper!

Call TSI (313) **231-2778**

or **1-800-HYDROSEED**

CURB Appeal Sells!

Curb Appeal Sells can handle all of your home improvement needs; you name it, we can do it, kitchens, baths, carpet, paint, roofs, with the same high quality and competitive prices that you've come to expect from Todd's Services. The best part...if you are selling your home, you don't pay until you close. Not selling?...take advantage of our financing options, 6 months same as cash or 6.9% for 48 months. Call 888-7APPEAL or visit the web at www.curbappealsells.com for a free estimate.

Flagstar Freedom Savings

2.50%

Balance	APY*
\$100,000 or more	2.50% APY
\$99,999 - \$50,000	1.50% APY
\$49,999 - \$25,000	1.25% APY
\$24,999 - \$10,000	1.00% APY
\$9,999 - \$1,000	0.50% APY
\$999 or lower	0.25% APY

Our rate guarantee:
Your yield may increase at any time, but it will not decrease before January 4, 2005.

*Annual Percentage Yields (APYs) for all balance tiers are guaranteed through 1/04/05 and are effective starting 6/09/04. APY is 2.50% for balances of \$100,000 or more; 1.50% for balances of \$99,999 - \$50,000; 1.25% for balances of \$49,999 - \$25,000; 1.00% for balances of \$24,999 - \$10,000; 0.50% for balances of \$9,999 - \$1,000; and 0.25% for balances of \$999 or lower. APY is subject to change without notice. A service charge of \$2 will be imposed every statement cycle if the balance in the account falls below \$1,000 on any day of the month. The fee will be assessed monthly. Account fees could reduce earnings. Not available for businesses or public unit accounts. Offer not valid with any other savings account offers. Other restrictions may apply. Offer subject to change without notice. **Drive-up banking only.

Open 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. **
In Store branches open 7 days a week
Convenient sit-down banking

(800) 642-0039

Member FDIC www.flagstar.com

FLAGSTAR BANK



Anatomy of a Curveball
It's all about who throws what in the game of baseball. Novi's Mike Hart, Billy Morrison and Kevin Cislo have a good arsenal of pitches to choose from. Find out what and why.
— Page 2B



Bringing the Heat
What does it take to make the World Series? Practice, practice, practice! Novi's U11 Heat sure know what that's about, but it has all paid off as they earned a berth to the World Series in Kansas.
— Page 3B



Regional Marketplace
Lyon's Marketplace has thrived at its location on Lafayette in South Lyon by providing high-quality food and service to its customers. Emily Wilson is one of the marketplace's newest employees.
— Page 4B

SPORTS & MORE

B¹

Yet another sports term gets out of control

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, July 8, 2004

OLYMPICS BOUND

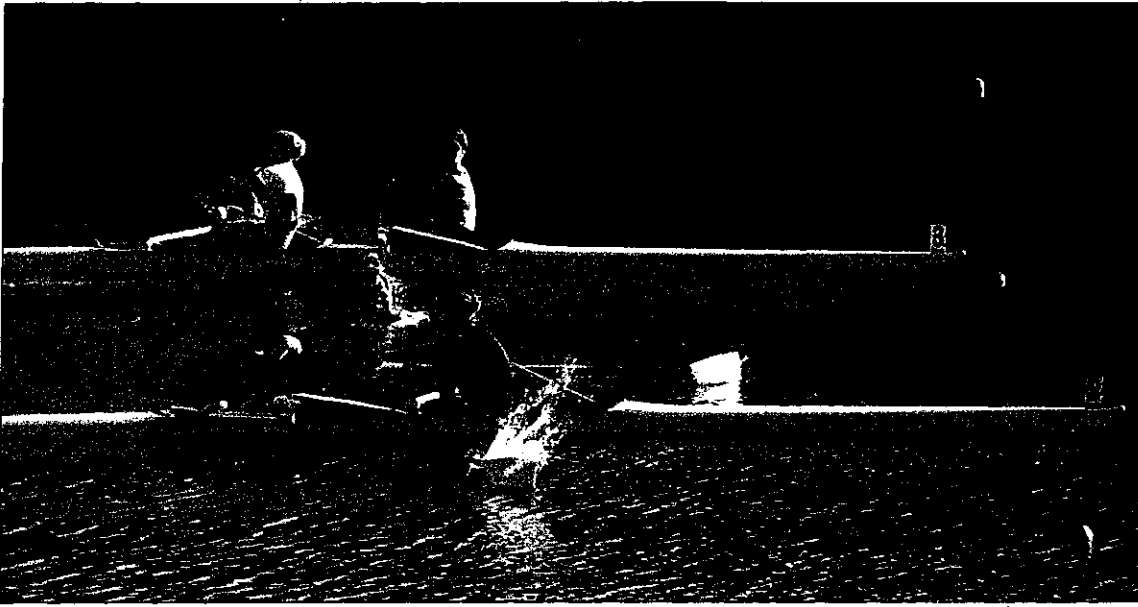


Photo by ED HEWITT/www.row2k.com

Kate MacKenzie, sitting to the left in the closer boat, and her partner, Sarah Jones, redefined a by-the-nose finish, edging out the favorites in day one of the best-two-out-of-three Olympic trials in New Jersey. MacKenzie and Jones went on to win day two by a hair as well, earning a berth to the Olympics in Athens, Greece next month.

Novi's Kate MacKenzie and partner Sarah Jones earn a berth to Athens, Greece with shocking win

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Novi native Kate MacKenzie and her partner, Sarah Jones, had to win two out of three races against one of the best two-person row teams in the nation if they wanted to make the trip to Athens, Greece for the Olympics.

Win those two they did — by a total of 0.75 seconds.

"It's been a pretty good morning," MacKenzie said over the phone from West Windsor, New Jersey, where the Olympic trials were held. "I can say that it feels pretty nice."

The second race, which was against favorite rowers Lianne Malcos and Portia Johnson, found the duo of Jones and MacKenzie trailing until the final 12 meters of the race. The champions surged forward, winning the race by the nose of their boat in a time of 7:13.33.

'Shuck,' then Athens

It was an incredible resemblance to the first day of racing when MacKenzie and Jones won in a very similar fashion in just 7:12.75.

"I think I was more shocked than anyone, even the people on the sidelines," Jones said. "I honestly thought that we didn't have a shot. If anyone wanted to try to beat us they could. Then, in the last 500 (meters), Kate started going harder than ever." And suddenly they were nearing the top team in the nation — the favorites to win.

MacKenzie, who is a 1993 graduate of Novi High School, and Jones, who hails from Washington State, weren't expected to win. They weren't expected to do much of anything at the trials other than compete for a spot other than first place. But the underdogs weren't ready to go home and call it quits.

"I was just holding on for dear life and suddenly we passed the lead boat," Jones said. "When we finished we were right next to them and I could only think 'What the hell is going on?' I didn't think much else during the race. I didn't breathe or speak much either. I think I just yelled 'Go' and 'Go more!' It was 90 percent Kate and she was powering through it. She took it on, which was really commendable. I was very impressed."

The second day was much of the same. Though the team hadn't expected to defeat the favorites in such a manner, they thought it couldn't hurt to try to do it again.

"It seemed to work so we tried it again the second day," MacKenzie said about falling behind and play-

Underdogs surprise rowing field with Olympic Games berth

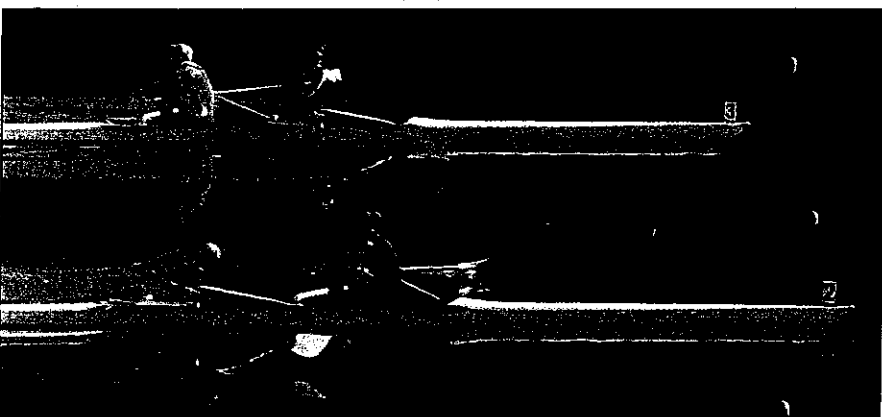


Photo by ED HEWITT/www.row2k.com

Day two's finish was a near-exact replica of the day prior. Kate MacKenzie and Sarah Jones earned a berth to the Olympic Games with this victory over the rowing favorites.

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

From underdogs to Olympians, Kate MacKenzie and Sarah Jones are experiencing a dream come true.

The truth is, neither one ever expected they'd be answering the call to Athens.

"I don't want to sound like a complete slacker or anything, but both of us were so bent out of shape over how bad the year has been," Jones said. "We knew we could do

it at some level because we're both strong and both pretty good rowers. It's just been rough this year. We've been scuttling all year and it was starting to get pretty bad."

Both Jones and MacKenzie failed to make the team for the eight-person squads and eventually worked their way to the two-person squads. The two ended up getting paired together by the trial coach.

"We were a good combination," MacKenzie said. "We were able to decide who we wanted to row with and we chose to stay together. It

was a good decision for both of us." But neither truly expected to be making the trip to Athens in five weeks.

"I definitely thought I'd be packing my bags," Jones said. "It's a relief not to have to call my mom and tell her to sell the tickets to Athens. Now everyone is calling and congratulating me. It's definitely a turn for the better."

The key for both rowers was to just go in and give it their all. Neither expected to be the trial champions. When all was said and

done, both called their respective families and told them the good news.

"They were ecstatic," MacKenzie said of her father, Judge Brian MacKenzie, and mother, Barbara. "They are so proud of me and so happy for me. I couldn't have done it without them. They've been there through all the ups and down. Finally, I made it."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or by e-mail at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Olympic team

Though this is MacKenzie's first trip to the Olympics, she is a former World Champion after helping lead the United States to the title two years ago in the races held in Spain. Jones, on the other hand, is making her second Olympic appearance after being on the team in 2000 but not winning a medal.

The duo was a good fit together. Not only were both enthralled with rowing, but both had spent so many years chasing their dreams that they were starting to fizzle out.

"I have been burned out all year," Jones said. "I think both of us kind of were. Neither of us wanted to go to the trials and neither of us wanted to do this race. We were tired of going to hurt and we were tired of losing all of the time."

That's the attitude they both had going into the trials. That wasn't

the attitude they had once it all started.

"We just didn't want to go through the hurt again," Jones added. "Then, in the last 500 something happened. It was all Kate. She suddenly didn't want to lose and I saw her go. We were way behind and I thought we were out of it and suddenly the other rowers were behind us and we flew off."

Their flight brought them a trials victory and then another, launching them to Athens and the Olympics.

Partners in training

Now, the two women will be training to compete against the best of the best. At this juncture, both have said they have no clue where they stand in the big picture. MacKenzie did say she could anticipate some good things if she and Jones could improve.

So who's getting tired of the term "walk-off home run?" It's a term that has been getting plenty of media attention as of late and it just seems to continue building and building. Though the word only recently entered the baseball lexicon, it has taken off like wildfire and seems to be dotting game reports and headlines across the country.

Has anyone ever thought to use the simple statement "game-winning home run?" That would be a refresher for a change.

Recently, at a casual function with some coworkers, I was asked what a walk-off homer was. I explained, to the best of my knowledge, that a walk-off home run indicates a game-winning shot in the bottom of the ninth by the home team. It allows not only the players to walk off the field as the game comes to an end, but allows the game-winning player to take a leisurely stroll around the bags to celebrate his shot.



Sam Eggleston

As I've come to find out with some research, I'm only partially right. The walk-off home run does indeed indicate the game winner in the bottom of the ninth, but the term wasn't actually coined for that exact moment. Instead, the origin of the term is credited to former Oakland A's reliever Dennis Eckersley. The New Dickson Baseball Dictionary names Eckersley as the father of the word, who is said to have used it in 1993 to describe the painful stroll from the mound after giving up the game-winning run. Not many would know much better than Eckersley, who is best known for giving up the "walk-off home run" that was jacked by the Dodger's Kirk Gibson to beat Oakland in the opening contest of the 1988 World Series.

There had been some impressive walk-off home runs in the days when people did not have a term to plaster them with. Bobby Thomson's "Shot Heard 'Round the World" ended the 1951 playoff series between the New York Giants and Brooklyn Dodgers while Bill Mazeroski won the 1962 World Series for Pittsburgh over the Yankees with a walk-off homer. That was also the case for Joe Carter of Toronto, who put up a walk-off over the Phillies in the sixth game of the Series in 1993.

Such a feat went from being called a game-winning home run to a walk-off. I think it's time to make it even more difficult to get one. How about this: A team has to be down by three runs and the last man up to bat has to hit a grand slam to win the game to get a walk-off. I like that a little more.

It's also a lot rarer than many might think. Considering the number of games since 1876 (that's as far back as I could find solid records) numbers nearly 180,000, one could easily assume that there have been about 100 or so grand-slam "walk-off" home runs to win a game. That's not even close.

Since 1876 there have been just 21. The most recent was May 17, 2002 by Jason Giambi. Alan Trammell has one too, cranking out a four-run homer in the bottom of the ninth June 21, 1988. The list of names is impressive, though only three are Hall of Fame members: Roger Connor (1881), Babe Ruth (1925), Sammy Byrd (1936), Jack Phillips (1950), Bobby Thomson (1952), Eddie Joost (1952), Del Crandall (1955), Danny Kravitz (1956), Roberto Clemente (1956), Ellis Burton (1963), Tony Taylor (1970), Carl Taylor (1970), Rob Lolic (1973), Roger Freed (1979), Bo Diaz (1983), Buddy Bell (1984), Phil Bradley (1985), Dick Schofield (1986) and Chri Hoiles (1996).

With how big athletes are getting, not to mention performance-enhancing substances, there's no tell how many games are going to be won in the bottom of the ninth with a homer. Let's make these pros earn some of the fancy titles we give to everything with a few grand-slam home runs if they want it to be called a walk-off. It's about time we make the million-dollar-a-year athletes earn something.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or by e-mail at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Rounding the bases ■ HomeTown All-Area 2004 Baseball Dream Team

Ever wonder what kind of pitch that just was that went flying past your son during a game of baseball? Just how many throws does a high school varsity starting pitcher have? What does it take to be as good as the top three at Novi High School?

Below, you'll find some answers to the above questions. Not only does Novi sport some of the top baseball talent in the area, but they have some of the best pitching in the area and beyond as well.

THE FASTBALL



Morrison's split finger



Hart's four-seam

The fastball is the number one pitch in the majority of high school ballers. The goal? To get past the batter before he can hit it. Northville and Novi were great at doing just that, as well as adding some oomph to the throws with the two-seam and four-seam fast-ball pitches.

THE SLIDER



Hart's slider

So you want a little movement on that ball? Few throw the slider in high school as well as Mike Hart. Hart, who is bound for Eastern Michigan, added the pitch to his arsenal to keep hitters on their toes and just a little off balance.

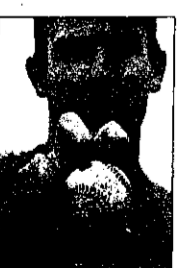
THE OFF-SPEED PITCH



Morrison's circle change

Bringing the heat a lot usually keys a batter into your speed and delivery. That's when the off-speed pitch comes in. Morrison throws a nasty change-up, dropping about 10 mph off his pitch to catch a batter off guard.

THE KNUCKLEBALL



Cisko's knuckleball

It isn't fast and it isn't pretty, but it's sure a scary sight to see as a batter. Kevin Cisko is one of the most talented knuckleball throwers at this level. Obsessing to employ a pitch that gives keeps pro players off balance in the biggest of games. His grip is rock-solid and his delivery is the smooth, making his knuckleball one of the most feared pitches in the KVC.

PITCHERS

Mike Hart

Senior Northville

- 11-0 record
 - 1.20 ERA
 - 80 strikeouts in 64 innings pitched, giving up just 35 hits
 - All-KVC and All-District
- "Without Mike Hart, I don't think we would have been the same team," Novi coach Rick Green said. "He is an extremely hard worker and it really paid off for him. He dedicated himself to pitching for four years for us and now he'll be going to pitch at Eastern Michigan. With a little more hard work and if he continues to work as hard for them as he did for us, I think he's going to be extremely successful. Whenever Mike had the ball in his hand, I felt like we could win every game. That was the advantage we had in every game that he started."

Billy Morrison

Junior Novi

- 2-4 ERA
 - 5-2 record
 - 52 innings pitched with 62 strikeouts
- "I expect Billy will be the number one pitcher for us next year and do some of the things that Mike Hart was able to do this year," Novi coach Rick Green said. "He learned a lot this year and he's only going to be better next year. I expect him to have a lot more Mike-Hart numbers next year and I'm sure he does too. I thought Billy was the reason we were going to go deep in the state playoffs this year. Unfortunately, things didn't work out that way, but that's what happens sometimes. Billy was as good as any number two in the state and you need a great one and two to make a run in the playoffs."

Nick Sarkisian

Junior South Lyon

- 2.90 earned run average
 - Went 4-2 with 57 strikeouts in 50 2/3 innings pitched
 - Batted .368 with two home runs and 11 runs batted in
 - All-KVC
- "Nick is a kid that just loves baseball, and it shows, because he's good at it," Lions manager Mark Thomas said. "He goes to a lot of camps and clinics to make himself better. Nick's very coachable and takes criticism well. He's got great potential, he just needs to develop a killer instinct."

CATCHERS

Matt Williams

Junior Northville

- First-team All-State selection
 - One of two unanimous All-Western Lakes Activities Association selections
 - All-District selection
 - Batted .354 with eight doubles, four triples and five home runs
 - Had a .741 slugging percentage
 - Led WLLAA with 40 runs scored and had 40 RBI with 49 hits
- "Matt just loves baseball," Northville coach Mickey Newman said. "All winter long, he couldn't wait to get out for the first couple of swings of the year. He wanted to do everything right off the bat on the first day. The thing about Matt is even if he's not hitting, he's swinging down everyone defensively. He calls a great game and is extremely valuable to the team. I've never seen a high school catcher that is as good as him defensively. I don't know how much more dominating he can be than he has been the last three years already. Defensively, he's stopping the other teams from advancing runners and keeping them off balance with the pitches he calls. Offensively, Matt is going to continue being great."

Michael Wiseman

Sophomore Lakeland

- Batted .393 with team-leading 31 runs batted in
 - All-KVC
 - All-District and All-Region
- "Michael walked twice as many times as he struck out — he only struck out eight times all year," Eagles manager Brad Farquhar said. "And when a guy hits third in your lineup like Michael did for us, he's not going to see the best pitches. He had 11 doubles on the year, and as he continues to get stronger, those doubles are going to turn into home runs."

POSITION PLAYERS

Brendan Buckley

Senior Northville

- All-WLAA and All-District
- Batted .396 with eight doubles, two triples and eight home runs
- Had a .736 slugging percentage

Mark Sorenson

Senior Northville

- 2.18 ERA
 - 9-1 his senior year and lost just two games his entire high school career — the first was his first game as a freshman and the last was his final game as a senior
 - Only loss came in the Regional Tournament against eventual state champion Ann Arbor Pioneer
 - 81 strikeouts in 64 innings
 - Batted .365 with a single home run and a .496 on-base percentage
 - One of two unanimous All-Western Lakes Activities Association selections
 - Selected to the All-District team
- "Mark is just great," Northville coach Mickey Newman said. "He's a very intelligent pitcher with great location. For the last year and a half, he has pitched our biggest games for us. He really gives us confidence and the team just fed off that. I am extremely confident whenever Mark is on the hill. Beyond his pitching ability, Mark is a great third baseman and this year he hit really well. He worked his way into the two hole and ended up staying there the whole year. He had some pretty big hits for us too. I can't definitely say that Mark is the complete package. He can pitch, field, hit and play the infield with almost anyone."

Player of the Year

Doug Benton

Senior Novi

- All-KVC second team and All-District
- .387 batting average with six home runs, 10 doubles and one triple
- 27 runs scored
- Doug surprised me this year when about halfway through the season he only had one strikeout," Novi coach Rick Green said. "He was always putting the ball into play and getting on base. He ended the season with 11 strikeouts, which is a great number. He batted sixth for us this year and I really like having him in that position. He has a lot of pop in his bat and was a great part of this team's success."

Kevin Cisko

Junior Novi

- All-KVC
 - .322 batting average with one home run
 - Committed only one error defensively
 - 28 runs scored and 16 RBI
 - 4-0 pitching with a 1.40 ERA
- "Kevin is probably the best all-around defensive player I have ever coached," Novi coach Rick Green said. "His good at getting to any ball hit his way. It can be a pop up or a ground ball into the hole and Kevin is going to get to it. He was great at making double plays as well and fields the ball as clean as I have ever seen. He's a smart player that just keeps getting better and better. I expect some great things from him next year."

Charlie Thomas

Sophomore Northville

- All-District
- All-Western Division
- Led WLLAA in hitting with a .482 average and second in the league with 39 RBI
- Recorded four home runs
- "Charlie is a question of just how good is he going to be?" said Northville coach Mickey Newman. "He's got the body to be a power-hitting, lights-out player and showed some of that this year. As a sophomore on varsity, he did a great job for us in the outfield. He always put the ball into play and had a great jump and angle on it. He's such a positive kid who is always happy. He carries equipment and is a great team player and a great individual player as well."

Jimmy Cicala

Senior Northville

- All-District and All-Western Division
- Batted .389 with nine doubles and five home runs
- Scored 34 times and had 29 RBI
- "Jimmy had a great year," Northville coach Mickey Newman said. "Even though his offense was great, he was invaluable defensively. When Mark Sorenson pitched, he played third base and when (Steve) Beck pitched he played short stop. The rest of the time he played second. He was basically flawless defensively and had the occasional great play for us as well. He can play basically any position, especially in the infield. That's a great luxury for a coach. He never complained either. For the years I had him, I never heard a negative word come out of his mouth and he never whined or pouted. He just loved playing baseball and he loved to be there."

Matt Nickels

Senior Novi

- All-KVC and All-District
- .475 average with two homers
- 49 runs scored and 27 RBI
- 23 stolen bases
- On-base average of .546



Mustang's Mark Sorenson fires one off the mound after a home game against Novi in May.

"He was hurt going into this year with a hairline fracture and a screw in his foot," said Rick Green, Novi's coach. "I was worrying about that a little bit because I didn't know what we would do without Matt Nickels. It would have been like losing Mike Hart. He was a big weapon offensively and a great defender. The day the doctor cleared him to play was a great day for me. Matt has the speed to steal bases and the ability to play the long ball or by down the bunt. I don't know what we would have done without Matt in the line-up. He was a great leader and a captain on the team and when he said something, the other players listened to him. Matt is a fierce competitor and he does not like to fail."

Andrew Atherton

Senior Lakeland

- Batted .365 with five home runs and 28 runs batted in
 - Second team All-KVC
 - All-District
- "Andrew showed a lot more discipline this year at the plate," Eagles manager Brad Farquhar said. "He cut his strikeouts down and developed into an all-around hitter. Instead of trying to pull everything, he started going gap-to-gap, which explains his 11 doubles."

Darrin Ward

Senior Lakeland

- Batted .413 with one home run and 23 runs batted in
 - Second team All-KVC
 - All-District
- "Darrin waits on the ball a long time," Eagles manager Brad Farquhar said. "In baseball lingo, we tell our hitters that we want the ball to get deep on them — to wait a long time and identify the pitch. And Darrin has the ability to do that, because he's got such a quick bat. It doesn't always translate to home runs, because he doesn't have that long, looping home run swing. But Darrin's going to go gap-to-gap on you and he's never going to get fooled. He's got 12 doubles and any time a high school hitter can come up with 12 doubles, that's saying something."

Zach Flavin

Junior Novi

- All-KVC and All-District
 - .494 average with nine homers
 - 35 runs scored and 56 RBI
 - On-base percentage of .592
 - Struck out just seven times
- "Zach batted three or four for most of the year," said Rick Green, Novi's coach. "I told him in the beginning of the year that he couldn't make me look bad for putting him there and he definitely didn't. I never thought he'd have the kind of year he did though. I don't know if he can duplicate this year come next season, but I'm looking forward to seeing if he can."

Novi well represented at World Series



The Novi Heat U11 team earned a berth to the World Series, which begins Monday in Kansas.

U11 Novi Heat will play for championship

By Sam Eggleston, Sports Writer

It started as a dream to teach his son the value and enjoyment of the game of baseball. Now Craig Bonnell is leading an entire team of U11 Novi Heat players to the World Series.

The team, which is made of players from Novi, New Hudson and South Lyon, earned a berth to the World Series in Overland Park, Kansas — about a 12-hour drive.

"I'm actually looking forward to it," Bonnell said. "It's going to be me and my son (Matt) driving together. It should be a good bonding trip without his mother or other brother in the car. It will just be me and him."

It should be a good bonding trip for a lot of parents and their sons on the team. There are 12 players including Matt Bonnell and all of them are excited to be making the trip to play the best of the best. The first game of the Series is Monday, though Bonnell wasn't informed of a time or opponent before press time.

"Everyone is extremely excited and we're all looking forward to playing down there," Bonnell said. "The kids on the team have really developed a passion for the game. They really love playing it."

That doesn't mean Bonnell and his gang wouldn't mind making a little bit of noise while they're in Kansas.



The Novi Heat U11 team sits and listens to coach Craig Bonnell following a game earlier this year. The squad, which has been coached by Bonnell for the past three years, has played in a U12 league all year in preparation for their World Series run.

"Knowing that they'll be going up against Southern teams that play the game all year instead of the limited season Michigan has, Bonnell and his crew have set a realistic goal for themselves."

"We really want to go down there and have a good time," he said. "That's the whole reason we're doing this. We made the decision to try and make the World Series earlier this year and we've done it. Now we just have to go down and have fun playing it."

That doesn't mean Bonnell and his gang wouldn't mind making a little bit of noise while they're in Kansas.

"It would be great to go down there and see what we can do," Bonnell said. "There would be nothing better than to go down there and put Michigan on the map by coming home with a championship. But, if we finish in the top half, I'm going to be more than thrilled."

Bonnell has been coaching for three years now, choosing to enter the world of teaching sports when his son was old enough to truly learn the ins and outs of the game. He and his two assistants, Rick Valade and Dave Regnier, have all been together for the entire time. They've followed the same group of kids and coached them for all three seasons.

"It's a really great group of guys to coach with," Bonnell commented.

Though Bonnell is the first to admit that he first became a

coach because of his son, he said that there is a lot more involved in the team at this point. Instead of being a parent who just cheer on their own child from the stands, Bonnell cheers on his entire team, which draws him closer to each of them.

"I've really enjoyed coaching every one of these kids," Bonnell said. "I treat them all like they are my own sons. I enjoy seeing them all excel and succeed while learning the game."

Beyond teaching the fundamentals of the game in throwing, batting and fielding, Bonnell and his assistant coaches take an educational approach as well.

"Our season really starts in January with indoor practice once a week," he said. "We also do a lot of education and hand out reading materials. We like to see what they're really taking from the game."

THE PLAYERS

There are no individuals on a team that is looking to make a mark on the World Series. But, everyone knows that all U11 players have to go to be an easy job for any of these players, but with the talent that has been assembled they should have a pretty good run.

U11 Novi Heat coach Craig Bonnell is the first to point out the best things about each player. From the starting pitcher to the right fielder, Bonnell is quick to note the advantage that each kid bring to the Novi Heat's game.

• Alex Freer: "He's a pitcher and a short stop," Bonnell said. "When it comes to hitting, he's leading the team with a .600 average. He's a great athlete that can do a lot of things for this team."

• Nicholas Regnier: "Nick has a great slugging percentage and can really put the hurt on the ball," Bonnell said. "He's also a pitcher and a short stop and I expect he'll get the start for the first game of the World Series."

• Colin Talbot: "He's a great first baseman that is just unbelievable," Bonnell noted. "If the ball ends up in the dirt or over his head, he finds a way to go up and get it. Few balls can get past him and he's an asset to have at first base."

• Thomas Kort: "He's just a tremendous kid to coach," Bonnell said. "He really wears his emotions on his sleeve and helps lead the team. He makes some unbelievable plays, diving for balls and doing whatever it takes to get the out. He's got the softest hands too. I'm glad he's a part of the Heat."

• Brandon Fitzgerald: "He's a solid glove that has a third base," Bonnell said. "He knocks everything down to give his way. On some teams, the third baseman is the weakest link in the infield. We don't have to worry about that here in Novi."

• Brady Sheldon: "He's a great outfielder with a rocket of an arm," Bonnell said. "This kid can get to a ball in a hurry and rifle it to the infield. You don't want to try to go two stations on this kid or he'll nail you."

• Zach Mohr: "He's our center fielder and he can cover a significant amount of ground," Bonnell commented. "He's our number two hitter and he can rip the cover off the ball. He's got a good arm, great speed and a great bat."

• Greg Lorrain: "This kid just has a great sense of the game," said Bonnell. "He's really a student of the game and takes in as much as he can and learns about it. That kind of dedication has made him a better player."

• Matt Bonnell: "He's our left-handed catcher," Bonnell said. "I'm so proud of him. I think he has really turned into a great defensive catcher and one of our leaders out there. I'm very pleased with how he has progressed."

• Andrew Wlade: "He's another kid that can play anywhere from second base to outfield," Bonnell said. "He's got a great glove and a great knowledge of the game. When he's up to bat, you know he's going to make contact with the ball."

• Ryan Fineran: "Ryan's a lefty that can play outfield and pitch as well," said Bonnell. "He's very tough and his pitching makes it very tough for the opponents to put the ball into play. He really handcuffs them."

• Nolan Valleau: "He's another catcher that can play a variety of positions," Bonnell said. "He's got all the tools to play the game and has a very strong arm. When he makes contact with the ball, it can really fly."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN High & Elm Streets, Northville Church 349-3436, Pastor Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Confirmation Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.	BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 1411 W. Main Street, Northville Pastor: Rev. James P. Heston Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Confirmation Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE On Hogarty Rd. North of 8 Mile Rd. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Church 10:30 a.m. Morning Devotion 10:50 a.m. (248) 348-1700 Dr. Ron Blake, Pastor	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 2211 W. Main Street, Northville Worship & Church School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Church 10:30 a.m. Morning Devotion 10:50 a.m. Rev. James P. Heston, Pastor
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican) 10 Mile between 7th & Beek, Novi Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Church 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Karen Henry, Pastor Phone: Church of the Holy Cross	GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Wisconsin Ev Lutheran Synod Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Thomas E. Schaefer, Pastor - 349-2655
FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4442 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2342 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor Worship & Church School 9:00 & 10:30 on Sunday	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 8 Mile & Toft Roads Worship Services 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Rev. Jennifer Birtley
ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 4630 W. 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48274 Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Reverend: Rev. Christopher J. Paster Phone Office: 347-7778	OAK POINTE CHURCH Northville High School on 6 Mile Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Catholic Contemporary Live Band (248) 615-7500
CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 2655 Woodward Rd. Novi, MI 48275 Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m. Holy Days: 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Fr. John G. Budde, Pastor Fr. Paul Bohan, Associate Pastor Phone Office: 349-8822	HARVEST FELLOWSHIP 49229 Pontiac Trail Novi, MI 48276 248-926-8332 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH "A Place to Grow" Pastor: Rev. J. McVay Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM The Harvest Fellowship (MI) 48276 and (MI) 48275 Novi, MI 48276 919-6227 E-mail: Revj@worldwidechurch.com Web: wfc.com	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 23225 Gilt Road Between Grand River & Freedom Summer Schedule 9:15 traditional 11:00 Contemporary Doreen Coak, Pastor Stephen Backwell, Intern
WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4025 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48275 Worship Services 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery Provided Sunday Evening Service 7:00 p.m. Service Reception 6:30-7:00 p.m.	Your Church Could Be Here!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information regarding rates call the Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Put your family before you and let them know your decision. So they can help you, they know, and there's no one else to turn to for a new heart, kidney, liver, or pancreas. Call 1-800-555-5946.

Sign up for free and donate. Organ Donor Program. Michigan Children's Hospital.

Visit Showtimes.SonyPictures.com

NOW PLAYING

THE SPIDER-MAN TRILOGY PG-13	THE ORIGINAL IN A WAY THAT ONLY SPIDER-MAN COULD: BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS PG	THE KING OF KINGS PG	THE MINDY KALINKES RADIO PG
--	--	--------------------------------	---------------------------------------

AFI AT LYONIA MALL AMC FORTUNE 30 AMC LANSER PARK PHOENIX WEST BAY
EMERIGNE NOVI NUR SOUTHWAY 20
SNOWCASE DEARBORN STAR GRATVOY AT 51 MI. STAR QUEST/VALES CROSSING STAR JONAS BLVD IN WALKER
WYNNER PALLADIUM 12 FOOD WYNNING CENTER-NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED
See us in the Wonderful World of Disney's Land of Illusions! Opening Date: Saturday, July 10 at 8 PM on

A few words of wisdom from coach Craig Bonnell has helped the Heat along this year.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at eggleston@hometown.com.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page B4

Novi News

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Business Briefs

Meijer celebrates 70

Founded in 1934 as a small grocery store in Greenville, Mich., "supercenter" retailer Meijer is now turning 70 years old. "Meijer's Grocery" was originally opened by 50-year old Dutch immigrant barber Hendrik Meijer, along with his wife, Genzine, son Fred and daughter Johanna. It began with \$338.76 of merchandise on credit. By 1962, Fred had convinced his father to convert the store into a "one-stop shopping" supercenter. Meijer has 78 locations in Michigan, including stores in Northville and Wixom. Four more store openings are planned for 2004, with another eight or nine to follow in 2005.

Oakland County ups Auto Alley membership

On June 21, the Automation Alley Consortium announced that it has signed on Troy-based Wave Dispersion Technologies, Inc. (WDT) as its 500th member. WDT is a Troy-based company that focuses on homeland security. Established in 1999, the Consortium is Southeast Michigan's "regional technology cluster" that works to foster networking and opportunities for advanced technology companies in the area. It emphasizes connecting government and education with business.

Oakland County is one of the eight Southeast Michigan counties with membership in the Consortium, which has seen its total membership rise 22 percent since 2002.

Free 'Toothprints' track kids

Great Expressions Dental Centers is teaming with WB20 Detroit to offer "Toothprints," a dental identification system for children, free of charge for a limited time. It will be available at all 45 local locations, including Novi, from June 28 to July 28.

Toothprints is a product that provides forensic information to help locate or identify a missing or abducted child. In the procedure, the child bites down on a "heated, arch-shaped wafer," which, moments later, is put into a plastic bag for parents to keep.

Since tooth characteristics are as unique as fingerprints, the wafer provides very specific details. Also, saliva-shed proteins that can remain in the Toothprint allow for successful DNA tests and, according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, can even be used by scent dogs.

Based in Michigan, Great Expressions Dental Centers owns and operates 65 dental offices in four states.

Gas prices hit retailers

A recent Michigan Retailers Association (MRA)/Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago survey index found that record-high gasoline prices will raise costs or lower sales for more than half of Michigan retailers — ultimately cutting profits.

A mix of continuous rainfall and \$2-and-up gas prices might be the reason that many Michigan retailers endured falling sales in May. This followed the best four months since 2000, according to the MRA.

Of the 200 retailers that responded to the survey, 49 percent reported declining sales — the lowest month since March of last year. Sixty-three percent of retailers are predicting better sales for June-August.

The MRA represents nearly 6,000 retail business members in Michigan.

Confidence down; investors bank on Bush

In early June, National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC) Voice of the American Shareholder quarterly poll reported that shareholders were more cautious with their stock in the second quarter of 2004.

More portfolios were allotted to cash, and some money was pulled out of stocks and stock mutual funds. However, stocks were still preferred. The confidence index in late April/early May was 17, having dipped 10 points from January. The scale runs from minus 100 to plus 100.

The poll found that more investors thought that George W. Bush would be better for the stock market than John Kerry by a 38-to-32 percent margin. Thirty percent figured neither would make much difference.

Poll participants also thought the justice system had been too lenient on corporate executives from Enron, Tyco, WorldCom and Adelphia Communications, but too harsh on Martha Stewart.

Advertorial



Photos by HAL GOULD

Lyon's Marketplace has thrived at its location on Lafayette in South Lyon by providing high-quality food and service to its customers. Emily Wilson is one of the marketplace's newest employees.

Lyon's Marketplace hits five-year milestone with gusto

Nearly five years ago, Lyon's Marketplace boldly opened its little doors in the heart of South Lyon. During its first and crucial two years, two chain supermarkets moved into the neighborhood also. In spite of this, the little doors at 509 South Lafayette continue to swing open with the constant flow of customers. Indeed, Lyon's Marketplace has beat the odds and become a destination retailer.

Proprietors Byron and Cami Muonio are matter-of-fact about their five-year milestone.

"We knew that there would be bumps in the road opening an independent meat market in an era of Wal-Mart mentality. But we also knew that if we provided a top-quality product at a fair price with outstanding customer service, that over time we would establish a discriminating customer base," Byron Muonio said.

Lyon's Marketplace is part old-fashioned meat market, right down to the hand-stuffed sausage. It is part trendy deli, right down to the "Hardy," a low-fat, low-carb turkey lawash rollup. It is part town gathering spot, right down to the 30 seats right in the middle of the lunch action.

Educated meat customers come to Byron, who does his own cutting, for product which is fresh, choice and doesn't contain growth hormones. Alongside choice steaks, roasts, pork, chicken, seafood and fresh fish, Lyon's Marketplace prepares

daily seasonal entrees ready for the oven or grill. Summer fare includes bacon-wrapped filet mignon, seasoned pork tenderloin, turkey and redskin kabobs, scallop kabobs and standard chicken or beef kabobs. The market makes its own Italian chicken sausage, which has a devoted following. The market seasons and roasts Bell & Evans whole chickens, and it pre-cooks baby back ribs for an easy reheat-and-eat meal.

As a big believer in brand names when it comes to deli meats and cheeses, Byron says he looks for companies that have a product low in preservatives. Dearborn Sausage Company, Boars Head, Winter's, Dietz and Watson are among the quality lines that share space with hard-to-find items like Oldani salami and pressed corned beef.

A backbone to the meats and cheeses and salads Cantoro's selection of breads and rolls is picked up fresh daily from the Italian bakery, along with Detroit Bagel Factory bagels.

"The bread is a key part of our operations. We've often joked that we opened a meat market and wound up with a sandwich shop, thanks in large part to Cantoro's. Real sandwich lovers believe that the bread makes the difference, and Cantoro's is as good as it gets," said Cami Muonio.

The proof is in the line of customers that snakes down the counter and out the door at lunchtime. Nobody leaves; it's worth the wait.

Employee Janet McSorley heads up a coffee and breakfast sandwich rush which leads right into the busy lunch period.

"Janet is so efficient that we actually dread her vacation," said Cami Muonio. "Even though she takes it in the heat of summer, customers miss her soups and chilis and salads and potato wedges."

Another long-time employee, Emily Wilson recently received a culinary degree from Schoolcraft College and is beginning to take over catering responsibilities in that ever-growing facet of the business.

The Muonios stand firmly

behind their employees. "Everyone here has a vital role in the business. Each employee has an area where they shine, yet everyone overlaps each other. We've been very selective in our hiring, and we think it shows," Byron Muonio said.

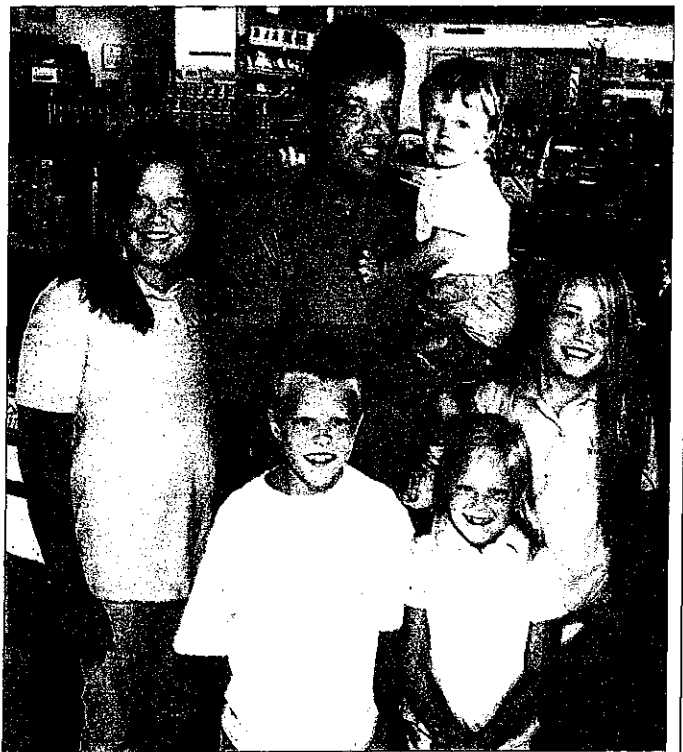
Lyon's Marketplace was put to the test last year and passed with flying colors, earning them the Phoenix Award for excelling in the face of adversity. In March of 2003, the Muonios were counting down the last few days to the birth of their fifth child when Byron became suddenly and critically ill. An encephali-

tis-meningitis attacked his body, put him into a coma and wreaked havoc on his central nervous system. After five weeks in the hospital and three months of physical rehabilitation, Byron began to return to his store. In his absence, a loyal customer base, strong community support, a brother who knew the ins and out of meat cutting and an amazing staff had maintained day-to-day operations.

Today, Byron has mostly recovered from his long illness, and Lyon's Marketplace shows no signs of his lengthy absence. In the year since his return, the store has reabsorbed retail space

once subtletted and has expanded its dining area. A new central island case has enabled the addition of hand-cut cheeses, packed salads, fresh dips and salsas along with basic produce. But for the Muonios, the greatest change of all is when the little doors swing open and a little boy toddles in looking for his daddy.

Stop by and see all the additions at Lyon's Marketplace, located at 509 South Lafayette, where you can expect family-friendly service, gourmet groceries and top-quality perishables, open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Byron Muonio and his five children Blake, 12, Brooke, 11, Tanner, 9, Logan, 6, and Mitch, 1, enjoy time at the family store, Lyon's Marketplace.

DETAILS

Lyon's Marketplace combines old-fashioned service with modern day convenience.

Located at 509 S. Lafayette in downtown South Lyon, Lyon's Marketplace is your destination for fresh meat, deli products, sandwiches, homemade soups and coffee. Hours are Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Call (248) 446-1822 for more information.

Guernsey Dairy
1/2 Gallon Ice Cream
\$1.00 OFF

LYON'S MARKETPLACE
Fresh Meat * Deli
509 S. Lafayette
248-446-1822

Dearborn Sausage Co.
Griller Franks
\$2.00 OFF